FOREIGN
BROADCAST
INFORMATION
SERVICE

Daily Report

Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-89-179
Monday
18 September 1989

Daily Report
Soviet Union

FBIS-SOV-89-179 *18 September 1989*

CONTENTS

ARMS CONTROL & DISARMAMENT

Yazov on Arms Negotiations, Army Reductions *[IZVESTIYA 17 Sep]* 1
Yuriy Kornilov Discusses Nuclear Arms Talks *[Moscow Radio]* 3
'Autumn Forge,' 'Sharp Spear' Maneuvers Examined *[Zolkver on Moscow Radio]* 5
Maneuvers 'Not Helping' East-West Relations *[PRAVDA 12 Sep]* 5
Base Eliminates Intermediate-Range Missiles *[Moscow Radio]* 6

WORLDWIDE ISSUES

Gerasimov Conducts 15 Sep News Briefing 7
Previews Shevardnadze's U.S. Visit *[TASS]* 7
Cites 'Concern' Over Israeli Missile Test *[TASS]* 7
Gorbachev GDR Visit 'Perfectly Possible' *[TASS]* 7
Notes 'Concern' Over U.S. Panama Sanctions *[TASS]* 7
Criticizes Khmer Group Moves *[TASS]* 8
Disputes Japanese Claim of Soviet Threat *[TASS]* 8
Praises Pakistani General's Remarks *[TASS]* 8
Comments on Yeltsin Tour, Remarks *[Moscow International]* 8
TASS Summarizes News Briefing 9
Spokesman Discusses SWAPO Figure's Death *[TASS]* 9
Gerasimov Details UN Assembly, Shevardnadze Visit *[Moscow TV]* 10
Gerasimov Leads Talk on GDR-Hungary-FRG 'Tension' *[Moscow TV]* 11
Petrovskiy Interviewed on UN Tasks, USSR Role *[TASS]* 13
Magazine Publishes Molotov-Ribbentrop Protocol *[Moscow TV]* 13
Gorbachev Sends Greetings to Moscow Book Fair *[PRAVDA 12 Sep]* 14
Ryzhkov Sends Message to Mother Teresa *[Moscow International]* 14
Delegate to IPU Forum Proposes Space Cooperation *[IZVESTIYA 6 Sep]* 14
International Space Seminar Opens in Frunze *[TASS]* 15

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

United States & Canada

Shedvardnaze To Visit U.S.; Meet Bush, Baker 16
Bush To Meet Shevardnadze *[IZVESTIYA 16 Sep]* 16
Bush 'Looking Forward' to Meeting *[PRAVDA 17 Sep]* 16
Officials Prepare for Visit *[Moscow International]* 16
Shevardnadze's U.S. Agenda Outlined *[TASS]* 17
Shevardnadze-Baker Meeting Previewed *[Ponomarev in KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 15 Sep]* 17
Expectations on Chemical Warfare Issue *[Chernyshev on TASS]* 19
Shevardnadze-Baker Meeting Previewed *[Zholkver on Moscow Radio]* 19
Western Sources Cited on Yeltsin's U.S. Trip *[KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA 17 Sep]* 20
BBC Comment Cited on Yeltsin Tour *[IZVESTIYA 16 Sep]* 21

China

Lukyanov Concludes Meetings, Visit to China 21
Yang Shangkun Greets Soviet Cosmonaut *[Moscow TV]* 21
Lukyanov-Yang Shangkun Meeting Reported *[TASS]* 21
Delegation Visits Hubei Province *[TASS]* 22
Lukyanov Tours Liberation Park *[Moscow TV]* 22
Delegation Welcomed in Wuhan *[PRAVDA 17 Sep]* 22
Lukyanov Arrival in Shanghai Reported *[Moscow International]* 23

Lukyanov, Delegation Visit Shanghai *[TASS]* 23
Delegation Departs Shangai *[Moscow Radio]* 23
Lukyanov Returns to Moscow, Comments *[TASS]* 24
Lukyanov's Visit Viewed *[Moscow International]* 24

Near East & South Asia

Foreign Ministry Statment on 'Savage' Kabul Bombing *[PRAVDA 17 Sep]* 24
Decree Pardoning POW's in Afghanistan Drafted *[TASS]* 25
Afghan Statement on U.S. Arms Supplies Cited *[TASS]* 25
Najibullah Speech at Media Meeting Reported *[TASS]* 25
Afghan Rebels Try To Wreck Media Conference *[Moscow TV]* 26
Reports That Rebels Hold Shindand Prove False *[TASS]* 26
Afghan Rebels Reportedly Hit by Army Attacks *[TASS]* 27
Afghan Foreign Minister Makes Stopover Visit *[TASS]* 27
Lebanese Peace Plan Welcomed With Satisfaction *[TASS]* 27
Commentary Views Iranian-Saudi Relations *[Andreyev on Moscow International]* 28
Borisov Comments on Conference in Sudan *[Moscow International]* 28
Envoy Polyakov on Mideast Settlement Issues *[IZVESTIYA 8 Sep]* 29

East Europe

Ligachev Concludes GDR Visit, Returns to Moscow 30
Says Gorbachev To Visit GDR 7 Oct *[TASS]* 30
Ends Talks With Officials *[TASS]* 31
ADN Cited on Satisfaction With Visit *[TASS]* 31
Moscow TV on Ligachev's Visit 31
Ligachev Comments on GDR-USSR Ties *[Moscow TV]* 32
Results of Ligachev Visit Noted *[PRAVDA 16 Sep]* 32
Reportage on GDR Refugees, Hungarian Border Issue 33
Kondrachev Discusses Issues *[TASS]* 33
Falin on Possible 'Mass Demonstrations' *[Hamburg DIE WELT 15 Sep]* 34
Causes of Citizens' Exodus Pondered *[IZVESTIYA 16 Sep]* 34
Hungary Says Border Will Remain Open *[IZVESTIYA 16 Sep]* 35
Conflict Remains Western Media's Focus *[Moscow TV]* 35
GDR's Mittag Pledges No Return to Captalism *[SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA 16 Sep]* 35
Honecker Cited on 'Respecting Realities' *[PRAVDA 6 Sep]* 35
Hungarian 'Reformist' at Moscow News Conference *[IZVESTIYA 16 Sep]* 36
Jiri Hajek Letter on 1968 'Invasion' Published *[IZVESTIYA 16 Sep]* 36

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Political & Social

Further on Gorbachev's Meeting With Baltic Leaders *[PRAVDA 16 Sep]* 38
Gerasimov Notes Concern On Ethnic Issue at Briefing *[TASS]* 40
Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Convenes 16 Sep *[Baku Radio]* 40
Further on Azerbaijan Session *[Baku Radio]* 41
Mutalibov Delivers Report *[Moscow TV]* 41
End to Direct Soviet Rule Demanded *[AFP]* 41
Sovereignty Stressed *[Baku Radio]* 42
Resolution of NKAO Status Adopted *[TASS]* 42
Nagorno-Karabakh Issue Viewed *[Moscow International]* 43
Azerbaijan Session To Resume After CPSU Plenum *[TASS]* 43
Azerbaijan Official Discusses Interethnic Debates *[Moscow TV]* 44
Azerbaijan's Vezirov Views Interethnic Plenum *[Moscow T]* 44
NKAO Situation Worsens; Talks Unsuccessful *[TASS]* 45
Strikes Loom as Tension Rises *[PRAVDA 15 Sep]* 45
Azerbaijan Unemployment Problem To Be Eased *[TASS]* 46
Soviet Troops in Azerbaijan Interviewed *[Moscow TV]* 46
Earthquake Strikes Azerbaijan; No Casualties *[TASS]* 47

Azerbaijan Bus Explosion Kills Five *[TASS]* 48
Armenian Parliament Calls Special Session 16 Sep *[AFP]* 48
Supreme Soviet Adopts Agenda *[TASS]* 48
Blockade of Freight Trains Viewed *[Moscow TV]* 48
Disaster Relief Obstructed *[Yerevan International]* 49
Deputy Blames Moscow for Blockade *[Yerevan Radio]* 49
Deputies Address Agenda Items *[Yerevan Radio]* 49
Deputies Express 'Grave Concern' *[TASS]* 50
16 Sep Proceedings Detailed *[Yerevan Radio]* 50
Supreme Soviet Adopts Documents on NKAO *[Moscow TV]* 51
Decisions Detailed *[Yerevan Radio]* 51
Arutyunyan Addresses Central Committee *[Yerevan Radio]* 52
Council of Ministers Official Visits Yerevan *[Yerevan Radio]* 52
Armenia, California Company Sign Joint Agreement *[Yerevan International]* 52
Moldavian Party Bureau Urges 'Rational Compromise' *[TASS]* 52
Seeks To Stabilize Situation *[Moscow Radio]* 53
Moldavian Councils Suspend Language Law Article *[TASS]* 53
Call for Strike Suspension *[TASS]* 53
Strikes Situation Updated *[IZVESTIYA 16 Sep]* 54
Councils Decide To End Strikes *[KRASNAYA ZVEZDA 17 Sep]* 54
Supreme Soviet Chairman Evaluates Events *[Moscow TV]* 55
Ukrainians Rally for Recognition of Banned Church *[AFP]* 55
Rally Marks Unification Anniversary *[Moscow Radio]* 56
Further on 17 Sep Demonstration *[AFP]* 56
Kiev Rally Attacks 'Rukh' 'Extremist Forces' *[PRAVDA 17 Sep]* 57
Rally Participants Air Views *[Moscow TV]* 57
Ukrainian 'Rukh' Congress Examined *[PRAVDA 15 Sep]* 58
Ethnic Germans Form Society in Ukraine *[TASS]* 60
Estonian Strike Committee Officials Interviewed *[Moscow TV]* 60
Latvia's Vagris Discusses Meeting With Gorbachev *[Riga International]* 61
Supports Unity With USSR *[TASS]* 61
Latvian Party Plenum Reviewed *[SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA 31 Aug]* 62
Sajudis' Role in Interethnic Relations Viewed *[GUDOK 31 Aug]* 64
Lithuanians Reject Polish Autonomy *[Moscow Radio]* 67
Attitudes Toward 1939 Events Not Unanimous *[Moscow TV]* 67
CPSU Central Committee Declaration Viewed *[TIESA 30 Aug]* 67
Chernobyl Commission Holds Session *[Moscow TV]* 68
Supreme Soviet Commissions, Committees Resume *[TASS]* 68
Committees To Discuss Economy *[Moscow International]* 68
USSR Supreme Soviet Session To Begin 25 Sep *[TASS]* 69
Agenda Announced *[TASS]* 69
Gorbachev Reportedly Will Open Party Plenum *[Belgrade TANJUG]* 70
Tarazevich Discusses Interethnic Problems *[Moscow International]* 70
Reader Urges Congress on Democratization *[PRAVDA 14 Sep]* 70
Sakharov Sees Inconsistencies, Threat to Gorbachev *[AFP]* 71
Party Ideologist Views Putsch Rumors, Reform Crisis *[Vienna DIE PRESSE 16-17 Sep]* 72
PRAVDA Cites Claims of Yeltsin Drunkenness *[18 Sep]* 72
RSFSR Official Views Construction Shortfalls *[Moscow Radio]* 73
Soviet Prodemocracy Groups End Regional Conference *[AFP]* 74
Russian Working People's Front Charter Adopted *[Moscow TV]* 75
Biographical Sketches of New TU Officials *[TRUD 7 Sep]* 76

Yazov on Arms Negotiations, Army Reductions

PM1609171589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 17 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 2

[Interview with Army General D.T. Yazov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR defense minister, by unnamed IZVESTIYA correspondent: "Armed Forces: How the Reductions Are Going. Conversation Between Army General D.T. Yazov, Candidate Member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR Defense Minister, and an IZVESTIYA Correspondent"; date, place of interview not specified]

[Text] [Correspondent] Comrade Defense Minister, on 11 July this year the USSR Supreme Soviet adopted a resolution "On Discharging From Active Military Service Certain Categories of Servicemen Performing Their Compulsory Period of Service." How is this resolution being implemented?

[Yazov] Sergeants and soldiers drafted for active military service when they were studying at full-time (non-correspondence) higher educational institutions [VUZ's] are to be discharged in August-September. Around 168,000 of the 176,000 people have already returned home. However, the resolution has met with a mixed reaction among Soviet people and in the Armed Forces. Concern, as well as approval, is being expressed: Won't the Army's combat readiness be damaged and the country's defense be weakened? The point is that the overwhelming majority of the servicemen who entered the Army and the Navy from VUZ's were serving in posts in the most complex specialities, those most important for combat readiness. For at least a year, and 2 years in the Navy, there will be practically no one to take the place of the discharged student servicemen. Over 700 tanks and 900 infantry fighting vehicles will be left without crews in groups of forces alone. Two shifts instead of three will perform combat alert duty in the Rocket Forces. Up to 40 percent of posts for section commanders will remain vacant in military construction units....

Not only organizational and technical but also moral and ethical problems are arising. Many servicemen regard the early discharge of their comrades drafted from student lecture rooms as a manifestation of social injustice. Practice shows that most of the people who are being discharged early experience serious emotional qualms. This is shown, for instance, by the thousands of reports requesting permission to serve out the allotted time....

[Correspondent] You often hear it said that the discharge of students comes within the framework of the reduction of 500,000 men in our Armed Forces. Is this so?

[Yazov] No, the discharge of students is not connected with this reduction. With regard to servicemen performing their compulsory period of service, it is being carried out not by discharging them into the reserve early but by reducing the annual size of the drafts for active service. This is being done strictly according to plan and, as is well known, unilaterally, without regard to the progress of the negotiating process or other circumstances. In the 6 months since the publication of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium decree on the reduction of the Armed Forces, their strength has decreased by 148,900 men, 6,680 tanks, and 1,070 artillery systems. Also, 40 ships and 591 combat aircraft have been withdrawn from the effective combat strength. Before the end of the year, 500 warheads of tactical nuclear systems will be withdrawn from the territory of our Warsaw Pact allies.

[Correspondent] What lies behind the figures you have cited, how are they composed?

[Yazov] Three tank divisions and one air regiment have been withdrawn from the groups of forces and disbanded. One tank division and three air defense brigades have been withdrawn from Mongolia and an air division, an air regiment, two autonomous [otdelnyy] helicopter detachments and one autonomous helicopter squadron have been disbanded. Various Ground Forces formations and units in the military districts and several Air Force and Air Defense Forces formations and units along with their support units have also been disbanded. In the fleets, 12 submarines and 28 surface ships have been withdrawn from the effective combat strength.

[Correspondent] What is the fate of the combat hardware affected by the reductions?

[Yazov] Some of the tanks affected by the reductions are being written off and dismantled for scrap and the rest are being converted as auxiliary equipment for the national economy (tractors, fire-fighting machines, and so forth). The artillery systems that are withdrawn from the effective combat strength are being mothballed at arsenals and weapons storage depots; and obsolete models are being written off. The aircraft affected by the reductions are also being written off, and only a small proportion of them are being converted for use as targets in the training of troops and forces personnel. All the submarines and surface ships withdrawn from the Navy's effective combat strength have been sent for scrap. It is planned to hand over three surface ships to young sailors' clubs.

[Correspondent] Simultaneously with the reduction of 500,000, the destruction of intermediate-and-shorter-range missiles is continuing in accordance with the Soviet-U.S. Treaty on Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles. How do matters stand here?

[Yazov] By mid-September we had eliminated 1,259 missiles and 469 launchers. That represents 68 and 57 percent of the original numbers, respectively. So that people can gain a clearer idea of just how complex and large-scale this task is, I will say that due to the implementation of the Treaty on Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles an entire category will be eliminated from the Strategic Rocket Forces—intermediate-range missile forces—and one missile army and eight divisions equipped with R-12 (SS-4) and

RSD-10 (SS-20) missiles are being eliminated. The strength of the Strategic Rocket Forces will decrease overall by 68,000 men. The U.S. side is also strictly meeting the parameters for the reductions laid down by the treaty. As of now it has eliminated 372 missiles and 71 launchers, which is 43.9 and 24.5 percent of the initial quantities.

Overall, the elimination of the missile arms and the disbandment of the subunits and units is being subjected to constant and effective verification. Suffice it to say that U.S. representatives have carried out 92 inspections at facilities of our Ground Forces alone. Over the same period, our representatives took part in 19 inspections of U.S. facilities.

[Correspondent] The speeches of Soviet leaders have repeatedly noted that creative use must be made of the experience accumulated in preparing the signing and implementation of the Treaty on Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles in the interests of successfully concluding the talks between the USSR and the United States on a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive armaments. What can be said about the prospects of these talks?

[Yazov] In the Soviet Union's opinion, a good basis for concluding a treaty has been created since the start of the talks on this exceedingly complex problem—they have been under way since 12 March 1985. Unfortunately, so far it has not been possible to find a mutually acceptable solution on a number of fundamental issues. This applies, above all, to the interconnection between reductions in strategic offensive arms and restrictions on antiballistic missile defenses. Our position on this issue is extremely clear: Any deep cuts in strategic offensive arms are possible only if the sides renounce the creation and deployment of large-scale antiballistic missile systems. However, the United States is continuing to cling to the SDI program.

Nor has agreement been reached on sea-launched cruise missiles—the Americans are pressing for them to be removed from the framework of the treaty on strategic offensive arms. In our view, a compromise here lies in limiting nuclear-tipped sea-launched cruise missiles to the level of 400 units, and limiting such missiles with nonnuclear warheads to the level of 600 units. This could be done outside the proposed overall limits under the treaty on a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive arms. These limits are common knowledge to each of the sides: 1,600 units for nuclear delivery vehicles and 6,000 for the charges on them.

The U.S. side is attempting to justify its line on the issue of sea-launched cruise missiles by alleging that it is technically impossible to monitor [kontrol] such missiles. But this problem is soluble, in our view. We have proposed a package of perfectly realistic and effective measures, including national technical means of verification and inspections of submarines and surface ships. Incidentally, one element of this verification was graphically demonstrated during the joint Soviet-U.S. experiment held this summer in the Black Sea.

Nor have mutually acceptable approaches toward counting air-launched cruise missiles been found yet. To count only 10 such missiles per heavy bomber, as the United States is proposing—that is, practically half the number that certain U.S. aircraft can carry even now—can scarcely be deemed constructive.

As you can see, there are many problems here. Nevertheless, I repeat, we are optimistic about the talks.

[Correspondent] What is the economic aspect of the Armed Forces reduction?

[Yazov] In the next 2 years military production will be reduced by approximately one-fifth. The implementation of the demands of the defensive doctrine made it possible to freeze military expenditure in 1987-1988. Further progress toward the limits of reasonable and reliable sufficiency for defense will produce a savings of almost R30 billion against the approved 5-year plan. A substantial economic gain is already being furnished and will be furnished increasingly by the switch from military to civilian use of military hardware that becomes available as a result of the reductions and its rational utilization after the necessary modifications have been carried out. The results of deepening conversion should also be included here: Currently 40 percent of the defense complex' output is intended for civilian purposes; in 1991 this share will be 46 percent and by 1995 it will top 60 percent.

In short the economic effect of the perestroyka of defense building is quite weighty. However, I would like to focus attention on another matter. It is economically unfounded and politically shortsighted and dangerous to depict—as some people have tried to do lately—the reduction of defense expenditure as virtually the only way to eliminate the budget deficit and to resolve practically all today's social problems. The country's defense is a sphere in which the fundamental, vital interests of the entire people are concentrated. The need for precisely this approach was pointed out by the first Congress of USSR People's Deputies. It was also discussed at the first session of the Supreme Soviet. In conditions where a real military danger persists, the principle of reasonable sufficiency must be underpinned by the further technical re-equipment of the Armed Forces on a qualitatively new basis. Naturally, that requires corresponding expenditure.

[Correspondent] Can you tell us, does the actual process of the Armed Forces reduction necessitate expenditure?

[Yazov] Of course. The redeployment of the troops that are being withdrawn, their placement and resettlement involve substantial material and financial costs. The elimination of arms, military hardware, and munitions involves the organization of scientific research, the creation of an appropriate infrastructure, enterprises,

testing grounds, the use of considerable production capacities, and the implementation of measures for verification and on-site inspections and environmental protection. Major capital and financial investments are also necessary for the conversion of some military production capacities. After all, it is a question of converting enterprises to other types of production, replacing technologies and equipment, retraining cadres, and making additional payments to top up average monthly wages because of the enforced production stoppages, and so forth. However, it must be borne in mind that all the expenditure connected with the reduction takes place within the framework of the approved defense budget.

[Correspondent] The reduction process is also connected with social problems. What is being done to deal with them?

[Yazov] Probably the most acute of these problems is the housing problem. Tens of thousands of servicemen's families have no housing of their own. This applies to approximately one-fifth of the almost 100,000 officers who are being discharged in connection with the reduction of the Armed Forces. For them, specifically, the Ministry of Defense is building 100 60-apartment and 80-apartment blocks in various parts of the country. That means 7,500 apartments. Naturally, this does not cover the need. However, the Ministry of Defense cannot do more on its own, although we have channeled practically our entire construction potential into solving the housing problem.

We are pinning great hopes on the implementation of the resolution adopted by the government a few days ago on measures to improve the provision of housing for servicemen discharged into the reserve. Of course, we are hoping for effective, concrete aid from the USSR Supreme Soviet and organs of power at local level.

[Correspondent] It is no secret that even today by no means do all young men do military service, and now, it appears, the proportion will decrease further still....

[Yazov] Considering all the restrictions which apply to the draft, only one-third of young people will do active compulsory military service—those who are not students and do not qualify for deferment on other grounds. A kind of chain reaction compounded by distortions in respect of social justice, to which people are highly sensitive, may arise. Many people are already demanding that the USSR Supreme Soviet resolution be extended also to other categories of student and working youth. Who then will perform military service? What will happen to the essentially democratic principle of general military service?

The increasingly frequent cases of military service evasion cannot but cause concern. After all, this has always been regarded as the greatest disgrace. In Moscow alone last year there were around 400 cases. In a number of the capital's rayons one in four draftees failed to report at military commissariats when summoned for the first time. In the country as a whole during the spring draft last year fewer than 0.1 percent of draftees failed to report at draft centers when summoned. This would appear to be a very small number. However, this is not a matter of arithmetics. After all, it is a question of military—that is, in essence patriotic and international—duty and an honorable obligation of Soviet citizens.

You probably remember the words that rang out at the first Congress of USSR People's Deputies to the effect that we cannot yet afford to give up the Army and say farewell to arms. The Congress expressed itself in favor of further qualitative development of the Soviet Army. This is a matter for the entire Soviet people.

Yuriy Kornilov Discusses Nuclear Arms Talks

LD1509173489 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0930 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] [Announcer] Good morning, respected comrades. Our program today, which is, as always, compiled from your letters and questions, begins with a letter—which, incidently, is written in great detail—from Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Fyutidin, a regular listener from Orekhovo-Zuyevo who is interested in the prospects for achieving an agreement at the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space armaments. We have already reported that in New York the report by [UN Secretary General] Perez de Cuellar on the activity of the United Nations organization has just been circulated. Noted in it in particular is the progress achieved by the Soviet Union and the United States in the sphere of arms cuts, and it is stressed that a key place in the efforts regarding nuclear disarmament should be occupied by the advance toward a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive weapons.

At the end of September in Geneva, as is known, the 12th round in the Soviet-U.S. talks on nuclear and space armaments is to start. That very figure, 12 rounds, indicates that the talks are going ahead with difficulty and considerably more slowly than one would wish. So, what can one expect from the forthcoming round of talks? Ivan Ivanovich Schagin from the town of Venev in Tula oblast; Vera Dmitriyevna Feldman from Moscow, Comrades Brizhan from Berdyansk-Zaporozhe Oblast, Kruchini from the village of Grachevka in Orenburg Oblast, Bamatov from the settlement of Novaya Krinza in Kuybyshev Oblast, Mereshchak from Khabrovsk, and Sedaruk from Moscow; and some others also ask us to tell them about this. Yuriy Imanuelevich Kornilov, a TASS political observer, is replying to your questions, comrades. Over to you.

[Kornilov] First of all I will remind you that on the very eve of the talks in Geneva—to be specific, on 22-23 September—another event will take place that will undoubtedly become one of the most important on the calendar of international events this fall. I have in mind the forthcoming meeting in the U.S. state of Wyoming between the heads of the foreign political departments of the Soviet Union and the United States, the meeting

between Eduard Amvrosievich Shevardnadze, our minister of foreign affairs, and U.S. Secretary of State Baker. As is to be expected, the issue of disarmament will occupy an important place on the agenda at the meeting. There can hardly be any doubt about the fact that the further course of the Soviet-U.S. talks in Geneva also depends largely on how things go in Wyoming.

[Announcer] But what is the core, the essence of the difference between the partners, if one is to talk about a 50-percent reduction in the most powerful and threatening nuclear and strategic armaments our countries possess?

[Kornilov] You have said that the large number of rounds that have already taken place in Geneva reminds one of the slow course of the talks. There is some truth to this. Do not forget that today both sides have accumulated whole mountains of strategic nuclear weapons. The Soviet Union has approximately 2,500 strategic delivery vehicles on which approximately 10,000 warheads are deployed. The United States has more than 2,000 delivery vehicles and approximately 14,000 warheads. A reduction in these gigantic arsenals is, quite understandably, an exceptionally complicated affair. But, for all that, in the course of the talks, certain—and I would say not small—progress has been made. The applying of brakes to this extremely important work occurred in the course of the last, the 11th, round, which ended in June. The main stumbling block is the immobility of the U.S. position, its unyielding reluctance to recognize that objective linkage which exists between a reduction in strategic offensive arms and a limitation on antimissile defense systems. In the view of our country, if the United States' ABM systems, especially its space strike echelon, are created—and it is precisely on this that U.S. representatives at talks in Geneva are in fact insisting—then the signing of the treaty on a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive weapons will become pointless. In this event, the arms race in the sphere of strategic weapons, including qualitatively new ones, will be unavoidable, with all the consequences that will ensue for the world.

[Announcer] That is, it is, in the end, a question of the need to strictly observe the Soviet-U.S. ABM treaty, in that form in which it was signed in Moscow in 1972, isn't that so?

[Kornilov] That is precisely how it is. That is the basis in the field of strategic defensive arms on which they can and hence should build up relations between our country and the United States in the nineties. The Soviet Union suggests including in those agreements on a 50-percent reduction in strategic offensive weapons a clause on the ending of its effect in the event of violation of the ABM treaty. For the moment the U.S. side declines this offer.

[Announcer] They say that this issue is a serious one. It is known from the press that the issue of the ABM systems is not the only point of disagreement. Just as before, no agreement has been reached on sea-based cruise missiles. What is the essence of the problem here?

[Kornilov] In their time some U.S. figures.... [Kornilov changes thought] For example, former U.S. Defense Secretary Carlucci stated that these missiles should not in general be included in the 50-percent reduction in strategic nuclear weapons, as, according to him, they are not nuclear weapons. Now, an approach like this is a thing of the past. The sides have agreed that the finding of a mutually acceptable solution regarding the question of limiting long-range sea-based missiles fitted with nuclear warheads is one of the priority tasks. However, the matter is being hampered by the fact that the U.S. side did in fact, at least right up until quite recently, decline to enter into direct discussion of the proposal concerning the systems and methods of effective verification with the help of which it would be possible to determine the presence of sea-based nuclear cruise missiles on warships and submarines. The reason for taking such an unconstructive stand has frequently been written about by both our press and the U.S. press itself. The reason for this is that certain circles in the United States connected with the Pentagon, with the military and industrial complex, do not wish to limit the number of sea-based cruise missiles. I will remind you in this connection that, according to some data in the program of so-called strategic modernization, already in the next few years Washington is planning to produce as many as 4,000 missiles of this type.

[Announcer] You mentioned that this negative approach is being subjected to criticism inside the United States.

[Kornilov] Yes, that's quite right. We do not have to go far to find an example. I have in front of me the U.S. newspaper LOS ANGELES TIMES of 12 September. Appearing in its pages, (Postel), an eminent U.S. expert on national security problems, with every reason calls sea-based cruise missiles one of the extremely dangerous nuclear weapon systems. He notes that the United States is refusing even now to discuss this issue at the talks in Geneva, asserting that monitoring of these missiles allegedly cannot be ensured. The taking of such a stand on the part of the Bush Administration, the scientist stresses, not only evokes serious doubts but also may be a threat to the entire U.S. system of planning in the sphere of national security. The Soviet Union, the U.S. expert continues, has at the talks in Geneva frequently expressed concern about sea-based cruise missiles and has proposed that a system of monitoring the limitations on this type of weapon should be similar to that being used at the present time to verify the fulfilment of the treaty on medium- and shorter-range missiles. The arguments against an approach of this type which have been uttered in the United States are questionable in the highest degree. This is the end of the quotation. One cannot get away from the truth.

[Announcer] And so, this is taken into account. What forecasts can be made regarding the forthcoming talks in Wyoming?

[Kornilov] Well, Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze, the Soviet minister of foreign affairs, noted a few days

ago in an interview in IZVESTIYA that the Soviet side is going to meet the U.S. secretary of state with substantial baggage. But naturally the question of whether the existing possibilities will be realized does not depend solely on us. We in Moscow, however, are hoping and believe that the word Wyoming will go down in our political lexicon not just as a state where a regular meeting between the politicians of two powers took place, but as a place where yet another step was taken on the path to a non-nuclear world.

[Announcer] Thank you, Yuriy Imanuelevich.

'Autumn Forge,' 'Sharp Spear' Maneuvers Examined

LD1509032589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 14 Sep 89

[Commentary by political observer Aleksandr Zolkver, from the "Latest News" program]

[Text] The current NATO maneuvers are traditional. They normally take place in the autumn, and incidentally are named accordingly: "Autumn Forge." True, this time one's attention is drawn by the unusually extensive participation of NATO naval forces in the exercises. This autumn, warships from not only the West European NATO countries, but also from the United States and Canada are concentrated in the northern Atlantic—a total of almost 200 ships and 500 planes. NATO Headquarters even call these naval exercises by a special name—"Sharp Spear"—and our General Staff cannot fail to notice the direction of this spear. As you might have read, a USSR Defense Ministry special announcement spoke of this with anxiety.

To tell the truth, though, this announcement for some reason paid no attention to the fact that the strength of the NATO ground troops taking part in this year's autumn maneuvers was significantly reduced, from 250,000 to 200,000 people. In addition, on this occasion, for the first time, U.S. troops will not be transferred specially across the Atlantic to Western Europe. However, 200,000 officers and men is no small number, either, especially when one takes into consideration the fact that positive changes in relations between NATO and the Warsaw Treaty Organization seem to be taking place lately.

In this connection, I would like to draw your attention to an unusual but remarkable detail of the present NATO maneuvers: As soon as it became known that they would be conducted, and as usual West Germany was chosen as the center for the exercises, our government turned to the Government of West Germany with a request to carry out an inspection of the military activities on its territory. An appropriate authorization was received at once, and for 3 days a group of our military personnel inspected this district on the territory of the FRG.

Unfortunately, the results of this inspection have not been published yet, but I think the fact of such inspections alone removes, or at least reduces anxiety and tension. Therefore, it seems doubly desirable that these inspections be carried out in the course not only of ground, but naval exercises as well, especially as this time, as I have already said, they are particularly large-scale ones on NATO's part.

All these problems are being discussed now at the Vienna talks on measures for strengthening military confidence. As far as I know, our delegation favors spreading these measures to the naval sphere, too. So I would like to hope that in the future not so much weapons as trust will be built at the "Autumn Forges."

Maneuvers 'Not Helping' East-West Relations

PM1509105789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Sep 89 Second Edition p4

[Unattributed report: "In the USSR Defense Ministry"]

[Text] The USSR Defense Ministry has noted with particular concern that since the beginning of September the territory of the European NATO countries has been turned into a military training ground by the NATO generals. Throughout the whole area, from northern Norway to the eastern borders of Turkey, from Gibraltar to the Elbe, and also in the adjacent waters of the Atlantic, approximately 20 large-scale general-troop, air force, and naval exercises have begun virtually simultaneously.

They are being conducted under a general command and as part of a general scenario within the framework of the regular annual bloc maneuvers "Autumn Forge-89," in which, according to official data, more than 200,000 military servicemen, 1,000 tanks, as many as 2,000 fighter aircraft, and some 400 ships from all countries in the bloc are taking part, including forces from France and Spain, which are not part of the NATO military organization.

Special attention this year is being devoted to rehearsing naval operations in the Atlantic. Operating within the framework of the "Sharp Spear" exercises, strike and antisubmarine forces from the fleets of the United States, Britain, Canada, the FRG, Norway, Denmark, the Netherlands, and Spain, comprising almost 200 ships and 500 fighter aircraft and helicopters, have now begun to be deployed in operational zones of the Atlantic theater of war. The NATO admirals have not concealed their intention: to train their fleet in line with the concept of "forward maritime borders," which envisages a constant NATO naval presence in direct proximity to the territorial waters of the Warsaw Pact countries and readiness for carrying out a surprise attack on their ships and onshore installations.

The USSR Armed Forces General Staff believes that such a high level of activity by the North Atlantic alliance states' armed forces runs counter to statements by the NATO military-political leadership about that

alliance's commitment to the task of strengthening peace and universal security and about the defensive nature of its military doctrine.

Because of their scale and the nature of the tasks being resolved, the "Autumn Forge" exercises are hard to distinguish from the deployment of strike groupings in close proximity to the socialist countries' state borders for the purpose of real military operations. This activity is clearly at variance with the positive changes in relations between NATO and the Warsaw Pact which have taken place in recent years and is not helping to strengthen trust between countries and peoples.

Base Eliminates Intermediate-Range Missiles

LD1609182589 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] [Gennadiy Vedenyapin] In strict accordance with the Soviet-U.S. treaty, another stage in the elimination of intermediate-range missiles has been concluded. Our correspondent Aleksey Guretsky reports from the Lesnaya base in Belorussia.

[Guretsky] The once-secret base has become a sort of tourist sight. One can say that people here are now always prepared to describe and show how the elimination of intermediate-range missiles is proceeding. Yevgeniy Mikhaylovich Ovdinko, the base commander, leads me to the place where the terrible weapons are destroyed. There they are: the R-12 which everyone knows, or as they are called in the West, SS-4. They are withdrawn from alert status and delivered here to this base. Here, in the presence of a military inspection group from the United States, the missiles are put under the knife, as they say. Meanwhile, the fuel tanks and the instrumentation compartments are cut up elsewhere and the launch stands are turned into a heap of metal, once again in the presence of U.S. inspectors. I will be honest and say that I sometimes catch myself thinking that it is expensive technology that is burning on this sacrificial pyre. For this reason I asked Colonel Ovdinko, commander of the base—he has devoted almost 30 years to this branch of service, to these missiles—whether he is not sorry.

[Begin recording] [Ovdinko] We soldiers, in particular, are sorry for this missile. But times are different now. The time has probably come to reduce the rocket troops a little. We are now trying to take everything possible that the people once gave the rocket troops for their formation and development and put it back into the national economy. As of today, we have fulfilled more than 60 percent of the elimination of the R-12 weapons system.

[Guretskiy] And a significant proportion....

[Ovdinko, interrupting] Yes, and a significant proportion of all the equipment. We are returning more than 80 percent of all this to the national economy. The tractors and the transporter systems are particularly valuable; the people take these with pleasure, and use them to transport all sorts of national cargoes. Here I would like to make the special point that the entire process of eliminating the R-12 weapons system at Lenaya base is ecologically clean, absolutely clean. [end recording]

[Guretskiy] Here is another interview, with a deputy of the U.S. inspection group, an attractive young woman who, to my considerable surprise, turns out to have a Russian forename and surname, Tamara Suvalova. I asked how that can be explained.

[Begin recording] [Suvalova] My ancestors lived here.

[Guretskiy] Is your work here going successfully?

[Suvalova] Yes, it is going very successfully. Of course, it is a very important process, the elimination. What is most interesting for me is the fact that we are becoming acquainted with Soviet people, we are making friends. That is the most interesting thing, I think.

[Guretskiy] What are your hopes for the future?

[Suvalova] That the work will continue and we will be able to come back and work here again in the interests of peace and friendships. [end recording]

[Guretskiy] In conclusion, it remains for me to report that in accordance with the treaty, 232 missiles must be eliminated. On one of them which went to the crusher today I saw the serial number 136. Today these numbers cannot be a secret. On the contrary—and both our specialists and the U.S. ones ask that this be particularly emphasized—they are the best confirmation of mutual trust and successful work to fulfill the treaty.

Gerasimov Conducts 15 Sep News Briefing

Previews Shevardnadze's U.S. Visit

LD1509121689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1120 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 15 Sep (TASS)—The forthcoming meeting between Eduard Shevardnadze, the USSR minister of foreign affairs, and President Bush in Washington on 21 September is a "good start" to his visit to the United States, Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Information Directorate, stated at a briefing which took place here today.

Speaking about the meeting between Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, planned for 22-23 September, he noted that the Soviet minister will attend with a number of new proposals. "We are relying on the U.S. side to also express new, specific ideas," the Foreign Ministry spokesman added. All five items on the present agenda for Soviet-U.S. relations, he continued, will be examined in the course of the talks, including the recently added transnational problems.

In the Soviet side's opinion, Gennadiy Gerasimov said, "there are opportunities for solutions on disarmament issues which take account of the interests of the sides." In the negotiations on nuclear and space weapons, "the question of mobile intercontinental ballistic missiles and air-launched cruise missiles is ripe for solution. The problem of sea-launched cruise missiles should not be an insuperable obstacle either, and the USSR will present thoughts on that point." Gennadiy Gerasimov expressed the hope "that, with the understanding of the U.S. side, we will also manage to find specific formulations on the key issue of maintaining the ABM treaty for inclusion in a future treaty." He noted that at the forthcoming meeting "there is also the opportunity to give an impetus to solving the problem of chemical weapons and a ban on them," as well as a ban on nuclear tests.

"The ministers will discuss the question of a new summit," the Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

In this connection, he noted with satisfaction yesterday's remark by White House press secretary Marlin Fitzwater that during the meeting President Bush wants to assure the Soviet minister of his support for reforms in the USSR and to rule out any insufficient understanding of the U.S. desire for the fastest possible progress in the field of arms control.

Cites 'Concern' Over Israeli Missile Test

LD1509130389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1216 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 15 Sep (TASS)—The USSR is seriously concerned at the fact that Israel has carried out a new test launch of a ballistic missile which, according to a report from the USSR Ministry of Defense, has, this time around, been carried out with the range of 1,300 km. Gennadiy Gerasimov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, stated this at a briefing held here today.

This concern, he noted, is caused by a number of reasons. In the first place, this test was carried out at a time when the USSR and the United States, implementing the INF Treaty, are completely eliminating their missiles of this class. Moreover, they have pledged never to resume their production. This measure radically reduces the danger of escalation of a possible military conflict. Israel's actions, however, are directed in an altogether different direction.

In the second place the international community is currently making efforts to avert the proliferation of the technology for manufacturing ballistic missiles which is dangerous to peace and to conclude a relevant agreement on this score.

Israel, however, does not wish to take account of the views of the majority of countries, either of the East or the West.

In the third place it is well known that Israel has at its disposal the necessary technical resources for the creation of nuclear weapons. According to United Nations data, Gennadiy Gerasimov recalled, this country already has at its disposal a certain reserve of nuclear devices. The availability of delivery vehicles in combination with nuclear charges makes Israel a seat of destabilization which goes far beyond the confines of the Near East region. It cannot be ruled out, the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman stressed, that this could serve as a complicating factor on the road to an all-encompassing Near East settlement and to the conversion of the Near East and the entire Mediterranean region into a zone of stable peace and cooperation.

Gorbachev GDR Visit 'Perfectly Possible'

LD1509134889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1329 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 15 Sep (TASS)—Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Information Directorate, expressed an assumption of a possible trip to the GDR by Mikhail Gorbachev in the near future at a briefing held here today.

Answering a question from one journalist about the possibility of the Soviet leader participating in the Day of the Republic, marked in the GDR in October, he said that October "will be a jubilee, a festival, and a trip to that festival is perfectly possible. In any event, a high-level Soviet delegation will travel to that festival. It is not ruled out that it will be visit at the highest-level."

Notes 'Concern' Over U.S. Panama Sanctions

LD1509140189 Moscow TASS in English 1349 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 15 TASS—United States' trade and economic sanctions against Panama lead to

undermining Panama's economy and primarily adversely affect the most needy part of Panama's population, Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry's Information Department, said at a briefing here today.

Gerasimov voiced concern over American officials' statements that trade relations and other business contacts with Panama would be further curtailed.

Washington's steps "are at variance with U.S. leaders' assurances that American actions vis-a-vis Panama do not have the aim" to increase the sufferings of the Panamanian people." [quotation marks as received]

Criticizes Khmer Group Moves

LD1509140489 Moscow TASS in English 1359 GMT 15 Sep 89

["Khmer Opposition Refugee Resettlement Suspicious"—TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow September 15 TASS—Soviet Foreign Ministry Spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov today criticised the reported intention of armed Khmer opposition groups to forcibly move Cambodian refugees from camps in Thai border areas to deep inside Cambodia.

He said these plans are linked to opposition preparations for hostilities after the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Cambodia later this month.

Gerasimov described the actions against refugees as contradicting international humanitarian standards, according to which their repatriation should be carried out strictly on a voluntary basis, with guarantees for their dignity, rights and freedoms, and within the framework of a Cambodian political settlement and the process of restoring peace to Cambodia.

Disputes Japanese Claim of Soviet Threat

LD1509142989 Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 15 TASS—Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov today expressed bewilderment at what he described as "groundless claims" about a "potential Soviet military threat" against Japan, which are made in the Japanese Goverment's recent white paper on defense for 1989.

He told a briefing here that the claims are based on nothing more than doctored data on the Soviet Armed Forces in the Far East.

The Soviet Union has recently made substantial unilateral cuts in its armed forces in the Asian part of the country and it has also offered talks to all interested states in the region, including Japan, to remove possible fears or misunderstandings over each other's intentions, Gerasimov noted.

He explained that the talks would involve comparing military doctrines and estimates of military potentials, but, the spokesman added, the call for the negotiations went unheeded.

"In this context disinformation like this white paper makes Soviet people doubtful about Tokyo's declarations of a desire to contribute to scaling down confrontation and fostering trust in the Far East," Gerasimov said.

Praises Pakistani General's Remarks

LD1509143789 Moscow TASS in English 1427 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 15 TASS—General Mirza Aslam Beg [name as received], chief of staff of Pakistan's land troops, has favoured a negotiated solution of the Afghan problem, and this can only be welcomed, Gennadiy Gerasimov, a representative of the Soviet Foreign ministry, said at a briefing here today.

The general favoured direct negotiations between the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Afghan opposition and continued negotiations between the Soviet Union and the opposition, Gerasimov said.

But General Beg also made pronouncements which can be qualified only as interference in internal Afghan affairs, the USSR Foreign Ministry's representative said.

According to news agencies, in the course of a briefing for journalists he asserted that some Afghan leaders should step down. Such pronouncements cannot be accepted. Exactly the leaders of the republic of Afghanistan with President Najibullah at the head are firmly conducting the course of putting an end to the bloodshed.

The USSR has always been open for constructive contacts with all who are ready to promote a peace settlement of intra-Afghan differences. The Afghans themselves should solve questions of their future and state power set-up in Afghanistan, Gerasimov said.

Comments on Yeltsin Tour, Remarks

LD1509213889 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] At the Friday briefing at the Soviet Foreign Ministry in Moscow a foreign correspondent asked to comment on speeches by the Soviet people's deputy Boris Yeltsin, now touring the United States.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov doubted the precision of the quotations from Boris Yeltsin's speeches and said there were different opinions about ways of advancing perestroyka. The point is that Yeltsin supports perestroyka, Gerasimov emphasized.

As for his ideas about how long Mikhail Gorbachev would keep his post, Yeltsin, Gerasimov said, overlooks the fact that Gorbachev was elected by the Congress of

People's Deputies for a term of 5 years. The Foreign Ministry spokesman pointed to American press variations of the program of 10 planks Yeltsin reportedly outlined during his meeting with President Bush. The American press has described the program as lacking concreteness.

TASS Summarizes News Briefing

LD1509173989 Moscow TASS in English 1636 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 15 TASS—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev met party and state leaders from Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia in Moscow on Wednesday, Foreign Ministry spokesman Gennadiy Gerasimov told a news briefing here today. The meeting was attended by the heads of the communist parties, presidents of the Presidiums of the Supreme Soviets and prime ministers of the three republics.

Gerasimov described as a "good beginning" Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze's forthcoming meeting with U.S. President George Bush on September 21. Speaking about Shevardnadze's meeting with Secretary of State James Baker on September 22 and 23, the spokesman said that the Soviet minister will take a number of new proposals with him.

"We hope that the U.S. Administration, too, will set forth new concrete ideas," Gerasimov said.

He said further that the USSR is seriously concerned over Israel's recent ballistic missile test launch, this time over a distance of 1,300 kilometers, as indicated by the Soviet Defence Ministry.

According to U.N. data, Gerasimov went on, Israel already has a stock of nuclear devices. Combined with nuclear warheads, the availability of delivery systems makes Israel a source of destabilisation, far exceeding the boundaries of the Middle East region.

The Soviet spokesman expressed bewilderment at what he described as "groundless claims" about a "potential Soviet military threat" against Japan, which are made in the Japanese government's recent White Paper on Defence for 1989.

He told the briefing that the claims are based on nothing more than doctored data on the Soviet armed forces in the Far East. "In this context disinformation like this White Paper makes Soviet people doubtful about Tokyo's declarations of a desire to contribute to scaling down confrontation and fostering trust in the Far East."

Gerasimov also touched upon the joint Egyptian-Saudi communique, released in Cairo, on the results of the visit by the Saudi foreign minister. The communique says that the sides expressed the hope that the struggle of Afghan mujahidin will be successful, as well as satisfaction with the fact that Afghanistan's place in the organisation of Islamic conference is occupied by the representatives of mujahidin.

"We believe that these statements run counter to the resolution on the Afghan issue adopted at the 43rd session of the U.N. General Assembly. They are clearly at variance with growing awareness in the world of the need for a speedy peaceful solution of the Afghan problem."

General Mirza Aslam Beg, Chief of Staff of Pakistan's land troops, favoured a negotiated solution of the Afghan problem, and this can only be welcomed, Gerasimov said further and quoted the general as favouring direct negotiations between the people's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the Afghan opposition, as well as the continued negotiations between the Soviet Union and the opposition. At the same time, General Beg also made pronouncements which can be qualified only as interference in Afghan internal affairs.

As for the USSR, Gerasimov noted, it has been open for constructive contacts with everyone who is ready to promote a peace settlement of intra-Afghan differences, provided the Afghans themselves decide their future and the structure of state power in Afghanistan.

Gerasimov said that representatives of the "Nadezhda" Committee on liberating Soviet POW's arrived in Pakistan to continue talks with the Afghan opposition. The trip was organised by Pakistani authorities and is a follow-up to July contacts between the delegations of the "Nadezhda" Committee and the Afghan armed opposition.

A new Soviet-Italian journal, AQVA, dealing with environmental issues, was launched at the briefing.

Spokesman Discusses SWAPO Figure's Death

LD1509203489 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1414 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 15 Sep (TASS)—The news of the death of Anton Lubowski, member of the Central Committee of the South West Africa's Peoples Organization (SWAPO) has been received with sorrow in the USSR. As the TASS diplomatic correspondent was told by a spokesman of the USSR Foreign Ministry, "the organizers of this criminal act intended in this way to intimidate the Namibians, to put pressure on SWAPO, to engender emnity and hatred, and to sow doubts about the possibility of a just solution of the Namibian problem in accordance with the UN plan."

"Expressing condolences to the family of the deceased and to his comrades in struggle, Soviet people hope that the criminals will be found and punished. The enemies of Namibian independence must not be allowed to undermine the process of settlement which has gotten under way with such difficulty and to turn this country once again into a dangerous hotbed of tension," the spokesman of the USSR Foreign Ministry stated.

Gerasimov Details UN Assembly, Shevardnadze Visit

LD1709200889 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Sep 89

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Gennadiy Gerasimov]

[Text] Hello, comrades! For the sake of variety—and as a preventive measure against a crisis in the genre—we will begin today's edition of international panorama not by looking at the results of the past week, but by looking forward to next week. It promises to be rather special. As is provided for on the political calendar another session of the UN General Assembly opens on the third Tuesday in September. Only a few years ago we used to assess the work of the General Assembly by the number of propaganda points scored or lost. The clashes between opinions took the upper hand over the exchange of opinions. Like a mirror the United Nations reflected the world of ideological confrontation as it was then. The United Nations is still like a mirror today, but it has grown more attractive because the world itself has grown more attractive. International relations are becoming less ideologized. Confrontation is being replaced by cooperation, and the search for a propaganda punch is being replaced by the search for mutual understanding and cooperation in pursuit of common interests. Of course there are still more than enough disputes, but the new trend is there to be seen.

The second important event of the coming week is the meeting between Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze, Soviet minister of foreign affairs, and James Baker, U.S. secretary of state. At U.S. initiative, this will take place on a reserve far removed from city noise in a little place known as Jackson Hole, Wyoming—possibly with a view to showing the concern people have for the environment there, and in order to concentrate without interference on the work.

there is a lot of work. There are five items on the agenda: disarmament; bilateral relations; regional conflicts; humanitarian problems, including human rights; and transitional problems, something that was added recently.

The main one, of course, is disarmament. In our view, the talks have been dragging out and have slowed down.

On the eve of this meeting, on 21 September, our minister will be received in the White House by the U.S. President. On Friday George Bush said he is awaiting that meeting with impatience. Marlin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, predicted that during the meeting President Bush will want to assure the Soviet minister of their support for the reforms in the Soviet Union and remove any misunderstandings of their desire to make the most rapid progress in arms control.

George Bush, the U.S. President, has proposed the concept of moving beyond deterrence. This concept rests upon the prospects for the success of perestroyka as a condition for the stability and security of Soviet-U.S. relations, hence the official expressions of hopes for the success of perestroyka.

but of course there are other voices too. Last week, for example, Eagleburger, the deputy secretary of state, called on Western countries to avoid paying the bill for cosmetic Soviet reforms. For him, evidently, our changes are completely cosmetic, while for the secretary of state they are extremely serious. One can find a lot of contrasting opinions of this kind in the U.S. Administration now.

Overall, the subject of Western attitudes to our perestroyka has again been discussed in the U.S. press in connection with Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin's visit. He has been traveling in the United States for the first time in his life. One observes that our journalists who write on international affairs in no way prepared him for what lay in store for him—nor, for that matter, did the party education system.

But did Ilf and Petrov not write in their book, One-Storied America [Odnoetazhnaya Amerika], about the way in which the U.S. hospitality is limitless, outstripping everyone else, including Siberian or even Georgian hospitality? I remembered this quotation when I saw the epigraph for the new book by (Buachidze), A Long Letter to Viktor Astafyev [Dlinnoye Pismo Viktoru Astafyevu]. That is where it is borrowed from.

No doubt viewers will have noticed that on an official level Yeltsin was received in a markedly restrained manner. Marlin Fitzwater, the White House press secretary, explained that the U.S. policy is one of support for perestroyka and would not want to create the impression that of allegedly trying to provide a platform for the expression of disagreement.

Here we return to the important topic of Western attitudes to our perestroyka. There are countless arguments on this topic—conferences, symposiums, and seminars. One such international conference took place a week ago in Montecatini, Italy. Amintore Fanfani, a senior Italian political figure, expressed the West's attitude towards perestroyka clearly and concisely. This is how he explained the situation, quite simply: The tension created by the division of the world into two camps threatened a nuclear elucidation of relations which would not have benefitted anyone. The new situation in the world demanded new approaches, and the Soviet Union proposed them.

Also speaking at the conference, Guilio Andreotti, Italy's Prime Minister, said something that I think is very important, that our present difficulties are not difficulties of today but are longstanding difficulties. Previously, people kept quiet about them. When they were asked how they were they replied: Cannot complain! Then Andreotti explained that the reply had a double meaning. In those days one could not complain; Now everyone complains. Western policy toward our perestroyka must be determined by responsibility in the face

of history. Andreotti proposes that ways should be sought for supporting perestroyka. The common concern here, he stresses, is the survival of mankind. in the course of the discussion on several occasions Italian participants quoted Guilio Andreotti's words about Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev: May God preserve him!

Gerasimov Leads Talk on GDR-Hungary-FRG 'Tension'

LD1709205289 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 17 Sep 89

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Gennadiy Gerasimov, with V.I. Mostovoy, USSR TV correspondent in Berlin; Ye.P. Shirokov, USSR TV correspondent in Budapest; and V.P. Kondratyev, USSR TV correspondent in Bonn]

[Text] [Gerasimov] And now, about one conflict of the week which has attracted particular attention in the West since it has given them the opportunity of winning propaganda points at a time when they should be renounced.

Vyacheslav Ivanovich, hello there.

[Vyacheslav Mostovoy, USSR TV correspondent in Berlin] Good day, Gennadiy Ivanovich.

[Gerasimov] Last week a great deal was written, and indeed shown, in the world agencies and on television screens about the triangle of tension which has arisen between the GDR, Hungary, and the FRG. Indeed, in yesterday's issue of Pravda, too, there was an article on the subject of the escape operation. How does this situation appear from your end?

[Mostovoy] This campaign is being seen as a provocative campaign against the GDR, a campaign which is being artificially fanned by the Western mass media. And one has to say that this is indeed the case. You know, there is no feeling here of the kind of atmosphere or of the impression which one might get from the Western radio and television programs or newpapers. The country is going about its normal life, preparing for its 40th anniversary, and what's more, with enthusiasm and in a good mood. But the papers are writing about this, commenting on the events. So is GDR television. I must say that the situation really does appear quite strange. In the main these are young people. We know people of more elder years, pensioners, have the opportunity any time to freely leave for the Federal Republic of Germany. They are taking advantage of this all the time, and naturally it is always the case that virtually no one remains there. But clearly, this category of people has still not been determined. Although it must be said that a great many steps have been taken lately by the GDR leadership to ease the exchange of movement and contact between people of the two states.

So, this sort of campaign does of course give rise to surprise, and does not correspond to the general spirit of the times, that spirit of detente and trust which is coming to the European continent.

[Gerasimov] Can one now, to conclude, say that this campaign is now dying down a little and coming to nothing? Or will it continue to grow, what's your prediction?

[Mostovoy] Well, in my view it is of course dying down and evidently there will not be any big build-up because the main numbers of people crossed over on the very first days...

[Gerasimov] Thank you, Vyacheslav Ivanovich, goodbye.

And now, we have been able to link up with Budapest. Yevgeniy Petrovich, hello there.

[Yevgeniy Shirokov, USSR TV correspondent in Budapest] Good day.

[Gerasimov] Well, at the present time many GDR citizens are taking their vacations in Hungary, but they are coming back not to the GDR but to the FRG. How is this whole situation being seen and assessed with you in Hungary?

[Shirokov] If you mean the official reaction, well, you know, the Hungarian Government and the Foreign Ministry posed the question that the two governments—the GDR and the FRG should come to an agreement and solve these problems themselves. Hungary did not want to commit itself to a final solution to this problem. There was a reply this week from the Hungarian Foreign Ministry to a note of the GDR Foreign Ministry dated 12 September whch states that the Hungarian side does not consider it possible to revoke its decision since the reasons which brought it about had not been eliminated. At the same time, it states its readiness to hold talks in order to promote a settlement of this problem.

[Gerasimov] As I understand it, as well as tourists there are a lot of television companies there who want to use this whole situation as a means of proving that people are somehow voting with their feet.

[Shirokov] Yes, you've put it exactly, because we have been working for quite some time in close and unexpected contact with approximately 20 Western television companies. They have camped down here this week and many of them have been going on the air three times from these studios and describing all the details about what is happening—well, what has been happening as they see it. Of course, one senses behind all this—and this has been reaffirmed by my colleagues from the GDR with whom I chatted yesterday—the clear evidence that this whole campaign was carefully planned in advance. However, one has to say that the Hungarian people showed a solicitous attitude to those people who found themselves in trouble, were generally concerned about them, and nobody instigated them into trouble.

[Gerasimov] As I see it, the Hungarian position is that in this triangle—the GDR, FRG, and Hungary—Hungary has found itself as a sacrifice to some extent.

[Shirokov] Absolutely true. And in this instance one has to believe that it is difficult to be an arbitrator and at the same time the owner of the territory on which these events which really are unusual for practical relations between socialist countries are developing.

[Gerasimov] Thank you, Yevgeniy Petrovich, for your story.

[Shirokov] Not at all. All the best.

[Gerasimov] And finally, on the line we have Bonn, the final part of our triangle. Hello there, Vladimir Petrovich.

[Vladimir Kondratyev, USSR TV correspondent in Bonn] Hello, Gennadiy Ivanovich.

[Gerasimov] Well, why are Germans from the GDR going to the FRG? Do you have a land flowing with milk and honey there or something?

[Kondratyev] Well, you know, I was reading something somebody wrote in a paper recently that there is a lot of milk and honey in the FRG, but all you need is money to buy all this in the shops. Well, to have money you need to have a job. And all this mass flight, voting with the feet, German reunification under the roof of the FRG—these are the kind of expressions which are being used all the time. It is being pointed out that there hasn't been such a wave of escapes since the Berlin Wall was built in August 1961. The BND, the FRG's secret service, reports that according to its information, allegedly authentic information, one-and-a-half million people are ready to leave the GDR. They interpret all this as proof of the collapse of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism and the hopelessness of the current system in the GDR which, they say, is incapable of providing its people with a worthy alternative to Western ways and conditions. What's more, this kind of criticism is typical not only of the conservative camp in the FRG but also of the social democrats. Their relations with the GDR, on the basis of mutual accusations, have also become clouded lately.

Probably in due course, as has happened before, these emotions will be replaced by revelations, purely German in their pedantry, of a socioeconomic nature, to the effect that the West German boat is full and it cannot take on board such a large number of refugees and settlers. Now this unique political event is being interpreted by some people in Bonn as one which is capable of fundamentally altering the post-war set-up in Europe.

[Gerasimov] I would like to ask you whether there are any particularly loud voices there in favor of reunification?

[Kondratyev] There are a great many such voices in favor of reunification, and, as I have already said, this is one of the reasons for this propaganda campaign, and this unusual step by the Hungarian leadership which has led to full approval and support on the part of official Bonn. It is needed here to justify their so-called German policy for the possible reunification of the two Germanies. The FRG will in all probability—I am fully able to make such a prediction—continue its policy of destabilization towards the GDR, and moreover, citizens of the GDR—they are constantly watching West German television—are indirectly being instigated to seize their last opportunity. A Truly unusual situation has come about.

There was a time when the GDR, as is known, for many years built its society on conditions of an open frontier with the West. We all know what this led to—the luring away of specialists and the undermining of the national economy—but in the present situation the Berlin Wall and the other border installations are losing their meaning. The alternative, imposed by the FRG and reflecting fairly popular opinion, is expressed, for example, in a letter by a reader to the editors of STERN magazine. He urges Honecker to destroy the barbed wire and give back the citizens full freedom of movement, and then, he says, with the rare exception, everyone will come back, he writes, to the state of workers and peasants.

Others are insisting on an end to any aid to the GDR, no credits or cooperation, as few official contacts as possible, one should not, they say, involve oneself in bringing an allegedly dying regime back to life. By all accounts, the ruling circles in the FRG are inclined to show firmness in precisely this direction. The latest debates in the Bundestag clearly demonstrated this.

And one other thing I would like to say in connection with this problem. It will probably not be easy for Soviet people who have been to the GDR to realize the desire for a certain section of its inhabitants to cross over to the FRG at all costs. For, compared to us, the GDR has achieved considerable success in many areas. But one should not forget that close at hand is the prosperous FRG—you yourself have already spoken about a land flowing with milk and honey—and everything begs comparison with the problems typical of the socialist countries in their everyday life, in acquiring day-to-day essentials such as food, the impossibility of traveling all over the world, the cost of Stalin's understanding of democracy—all this of course incites certain people toward a fundamental change in their destiny. It is, of course, rather more simple for citizens of the GDR than other, say, Soviet Germans. They integrate with the society here. They have no language problems. Many are linked by family ties with West Germans, and, seeing the tangle of human and interstate relations in this part of our continent, they hope that they will be able to disentangle this ball, which at the moment cannot be predicted nor its consequences, without a build-up of confrontation and damage to that which has already entered the conscience of the people of Europe, namely the building of a common European home.

[Gerasimov] Thank you, Vladimir Petrovich for your story. Good-bye.

[Kondratyev] Thank you very much, Gennadiy Ivanovich, all the best.

Petrovskiy Interviewed on UN Tasks, USSR Role

LD1609083289 Moscow TASS in English 0826 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 16 TASS—The Soviet Union sees the main task of the 44th U.N. General Assembly which will open in New York on September 19, in "stimulating a stable and, at the same time dynamic, advance towards restructuring international relations with the most active participation of the United Nations." Vladimir Petrovskiy, deputy head of the Soviet delegation and deputy foreign minister, said in an interview published by PRAVDA today.

The Soviet delegation at the session will promote in every way the further fruitful development of the dialogue on an all-embracing approach to strengthening international peace and security, Petrovskiy pointed out.

He expressed hope that the 44th session would noticeably promote, through a thorough search for a balance of states' interests, a higher U.N. contribution to defusing regional conflicts, in particular "will consolidate a broad international consensus in favour of the earliest political solution of the Afghan problem, relying on possibilities of the United Nations and its secretary-general. It will give an impetus to the advance towards national reconciliation in Afghanistan. A new resolution on this question at the coming session should reflect, naturally, new realities which have emerged in Afghanistan after the withdrawal of Soviet troops and should call on all sides to strictly implement the Geneva accords."

"In our opinion, the session's decisions should promote an all-embracing settlement in the Middle East, termination of the civil war and achievement of concord in Lebanon, consolidation of positive processes in Southwest Africa, Central America and other regions. Session participants will need to display both competence and high political responsibility, readiness to look for nonconventional, deideologised approaches and to take into account imperatives of our times. The U.N. support for peace-making efforts in some conflict situations, including the Cambodian question, depends on the General Assembly's ability to abandon former confrontational decisions," the deputy minister went on to say.

"We believe," the Soviet diplomat pointed out, "that it is necessary to be move active in abandoning the narrow framework of localisation of conflicts and rising to a qualitatively new level of their prevention and ensurance of a stable world order maintained at the level of high reliability."

Petrovskiy noted that the U.N. is now experiencing active renovating processes which are raising its prestige and influence in the international arena, and this is "directly linked with the improvement in the international climate, realism and responsibility displayed by a growing number of states in their foreign policy thinking and actions."

Magazine Publishes Molotov-Ribbentrop Protocol

LD1509172689 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 15 Sep 89

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Excerpt] [Kudrin] Now for a little bit of history. Our correspondent has visited the editorial office of the magazine MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN, which, incidentally, has not only changed its external appearance, but has also become significantly more profound, interesting and rich in content. But that's just by the by. Let's hear about something new the magazine is publishing.

[S. Tarasov] For 50 years we have not had a precise impression of the nature of Soviet-German relations on the eve of World War II, but now, the magazine MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN, in conjunction with the Historical-Diplomatic Administration of the USSR Foreign Ministry, has published some unique material. This means, primarily, the secret supplementary protocol to the Soviet-German treaty of 23 August 1939, as well as 30 previously closed documents. Bitter arguments have flared up recently among historians and current affairs commentators over them. [video shows old film of the treaty signing, with a German-language version of the nonaggression treaty; cover and inside pages of the September edition of MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN showing some of the documents]

[B.D. Pyadyshev, chief editor of MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN, member of USSR Foreign Ministry collegium, identified by caption] In my opinion, these protocols, these documents, should have been published long ago, and things should not have been allowed to get to the boiling point the polemics surrounding them have now reached.

These protocols first surfaced at the Nuremberg trial in April 1946, when Hess's lawyer read out an entry made by a civil servant from the German Foreign Ministry who had accompanied Ribbentrop on his journey to Moscow. That entry first mentioned that Ribbentrop and Molotov had signed that secret document. At that time both the Soviet representative, prosecutor Rudenko, and the Western representatives spoke in favor of not discussing that problem and of casting a taboo over those protocols again, so to speak. They disappeared for some time, but then they were published in the West. However, they were published secondhand, so to speak, from a translation from German into English and again from English into Russian. Therefore, the texts currently in circulation contain many imprecisions, but the texts in MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZN are the

only precise documents. [passage omitted: criticism of Britain and France for not talking sincerely enough to the USSR in 1939] [video shows Pyadyshev and Tarasov in an office]

Gorbachev Sends Greetings to Moscow Book Fair

PM1509152189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Sep 89 Second Edition p 1

[M.S. Gorbachev greetings to Moscow International Book Fair]

[Text] To the Participants and Guests of the Moscow International Book Fair:

I am sincerely pleased to welcome the participants in and guests of the Seventh Moscow International Book Fair.

Throughout the ages books have been a reliable means of communication between peoples. They have taught us to better understand one another, correctly assess the processes taking place in the world, and make a moral choice in the struggle between good and evil, truth and falsehood, and rationality and irrationality. Amassing the historical experience of development and encapsulating the hopes and aspirations of generations over the centuries, books are a powerful force transforming the world and bringing people of different nationalities and world outlooks closer together.

The new political thinking, which is gaining an increasingly firm foothold in relations between countries and peoples, broadens our perception of our contradictory but interconnected world, more clearly highlights the priority of common human values, and opens up new prospects for the development of civilization. We can only resolve the tasks facing mankind today through joint efforts, by ridding the peoples of nuclear confrontation, abandoning "cold war" stereotypes, and humanizing relations between people.

Soviet people are engaged in creative work to restructure all spheres of social life on a broad, democratic basis and on the basis of openness and glasnost. We want our present view of ourselves and the world around us and also our efforts and intentions to be clear and intelligible to all.

Books have a lasting role to play in the spiritual enrichment and ennoblement of the individual. This places an enormous moral responsibility on authors, publishers, and printers—all those who bring books into the world. I would like to hope that this latest book forum will contribute to the further development of international book exchange, the elevation of spiritual values, and the establishment of the ideals of truth, justice, peace, and progress.

I wish the participants in and guests of the Moscow International Book Fair successful, fruitful work.
[Signed] M.S. Gorbachev

Ryzhkov Sends Message to Mother Teresa

LD1509162889 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Soviet Prime Minister Nikolay Ryzhkov has sent hearty greetings and wishes of speedy recovery to the world famous Catholic nun, Mother Teresa of Calcutta.

The charity order she is in charge of helps those who are ill or are in need in 87 countries. Mother Teresa has visited the Soviet Union twice, the last time on a charity mission in Armenia. Mother Teresa is in hospital in Calcutta.

Foreign Ministry spokesman in Moscow Mr Gennadiy Gerasimov said at a briefing today that the Soviet people had been following with concern reports about Mother Teresa's health.

Delegate to IPU Forum Proposes Space Cooperation

PM1409153989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent A. Krivopalov dispatch: "Interparliamentary Union's Jubilee Forum"]

[Text] London—It is symbolic that the jubilee meeting of the Interparliamentary Union, which is celebrating its centennial, has opened in ancient Westminster. After all, Britain is rightly called the "mother of parliaments."

Soviet parliamentarians headed by Academician Ye.M. Primakov, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Union, are also taking part in the London jubilee forum.

During the discussion at the first plenary session on the question of the peaceful use of space, twice Hero of the Soviet Union Pilot-Cosmonaut A.S. Yeliseyev spoke on behalf of the Soviet delegation. He pointed out, in particular, that we need to learn in a very short time to use the earth's natural resources rationally. We will have to do a great deal of nature restoration work. As a rule, we no longer breathe the air and often no longer drink the water and eat the food which initially shaped man's physiology. The situation now is rapidly deteriorating, and if the most serious measures are not taken the changes in the environment may even affect the health of our children and grandchildren.

Considering the task of averting an ecological catastrophe to be particularly important, the USSR is proposing the setting up of a international space laboratory or a manned orbital station to monitor the state of the environment. As a first step in this direction the Soviet Union intends to use the special "Priroda" module, which it is planning to launch and dock with the "Mir" orbital station for use in 1991-1992.

The Soviet Union, A.S. Yeliseyev stressed, expresses its readiness to use Soviet spacecraft to carry out an international program, proposes launching other countries'

spacecraft using Soviet launch vehicles, and agrees to look at any proposals for peaceful cooperation.

International Space Seminar Opens in Frunze

LD1809102189 Moscow TASS in English 0958 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Frunze September 18 TASS—Scientists from over 20 countries are attending a seminar which opened in the Kirghiz caital of Frunze today to pool experience of developing instruments for use in space and outline plans for cooperation.

The meeting is expected to pay special attention to the ecological uses of space-based systems like the continuous monitoring of the atmosphere, farmland and oceans.

It will also discuss instruments for interplanetary probes to be launched under the international Intercosmos programme.

United States & Canada

Shedvardnaze To Visit U.S.; Meet Bush, Baker

Bush To Meet Shevardnadze

PM1509144589 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 1

[Report under the rubric "TASS, REUTER Report": "Meeting Planned Between G. Bush and E.A. Shevardnadze"]

[Text] White House Press Secretary Fitzwater has stated at a briefing that President Bush will meet with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze 21 September. The President hopes for a fruitful exchange of opinions on a broad range of issues concerning U.S.-Soviet relations. The agenda will include five points: bilateral relations, activities in the human rights sphere, regional relations, arms control, and transnational issues such as terrorism, the environment, and the economy, for instance. All these issues will naturally be discussed during the visit (by E.A. Shevardnadze) with Secretary of State Baker. It is possible that not all will be touched upon during the meeting with the President. There are a number of very substantive issues which we want to discuss, particularly on arms control. We have seen reports about chemical weapons (about the possible signing of an agreement). Chemical weapons will be discussed but we continue to have certain differences on the question of verification and monitoring which need to be settled. If they reach an agreement, it will be announced. Nuclear tests and several issues in the field of regional relations will also be discussed: We still have issues such as Afghanistan and Nicaragua to discuss with the foreign minister.

During the meeting with E.A. Shevardnadze President Bush wants to assure him of our support for reform in the Soviet Union and to rule out any misunderstanding of our desire for the speediest progress on arms control.

Asked whether preparations for a summit would be discussed, Fitzwater replied: I expect that that the possibility of a summit will be discussed by the secretary of state and the foreign minister. But whether there will be an announcement or not is hard to say as yet. The President, of course, is willing to hold a summit with President Gorbachev at any time which we deem appropriate—when both sides have substantive issues to discuss. But there is no rush, there is no urgent need to try to hold a summit as soon as possible if we are not prepared for it from the standpoint of the substance of the matter. In reply to journalists' questions Fitzwater stressed that the United States rejects claims that it is using delaying tactics at the disarmament talks. He listed the proposals put forward by the U.S side. Fitzwater also said that the President is prepared to examine the issue of abolishing restrictions on trade with the USSR, but that no decision has been made.

On the same subject State Department spokesman Boucher stated: Our position on the Jackson-Vanik amendment and the Soviet Union is to observe the law. Moreover, the interested parties should come to the same opinion as to whether there should be any alterations to the Soviet Union's status with regard to the Jackson-Vanik amendment. We do not plan to make any proposals until such a unity of view is achieved.

Bush 'Looking Forward' to Meeting

PM1709164589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Sep 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Remarks by G. Bush"]

[Text] Washington, 16 Sep—"I am looking forward to meeting with Mr Shevardnadze next week," U.S. President Bush stated Friday at a meeting with a group of U.S. journalists. "I am also looking forward to the substantive talks that Jim Baker (U.S. secretary of state—TASS note) and Shevardnadze are to hold in Wyoming after his meeting with me."

Bush asserted that his administration is pursuing a "realistic policy vis-a-vis the Soviet Union." "I am happy to see the changes taking place there," the President said. He declared that he welcomes "the peace-loving statements the Soviet Union is making," but he would like to "be sure that they accord with reality."

"I know that in certain circles there is virtually exultation about there no longer being a threat to peace," Bush continued, "I do not believe in this." He asserted that the Soviet Union "is modernizing its nuclear arsenal and is doing so quite vigorously."

"Let us not abandon the guarantees that our alliance (NATO—TASS note) offers us merely because we feel more optimistic that peace will last," the President said. He advocated maintaining U.S. and NATO military might "at the proper level" and also rejected the proposal put forward by Democratic Party members in Congress to increase appropriations for the battle against the drug mafia at the expense of the Pentagon budget. "We cannot sacrifice combat readiness," Bush emphasized.

Officials Prepare for Visit

LD1709160289 Moscow World Service in English 1500 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Soviet representatives have arrived in Washington to prepare a visit of the Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze to the United States. Mr Shevardnadze will meet with President George Bush next Thursday. A Foreign Ministry representative has told a Moscow briefing the meeting will (?prove) the visit's good beginning. Eduard Shevardnadze will have talks with State Secretary James Baker in the state of Wyoming next Friday and Saturday. They will discuss Soviet-American relations, human rights and regional problems.

The Moscow briefing was told the Soviet side believed disarmament questions could be solved, namely mobile intercontinetal ballistic missiles, air- and sea-based cruise missiles, chemical weapons and a nuclear test total ban. Eduard Shevardnadze and James Baker will also discuss one more Soviet-U.S. summit.

Shevardnadze's U.S. Agenda Outlined

LD1809003589 Moscow TASS in English 2302 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Washington September 18 TASS—By TASS correspondent Andrey Fedyashin:

Meetings of working groups of Soviet and American experts begin in the U.S. State Department today. They will discuss the latest particulars of the agenda for the coming talks between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and the U.S. leadership. A meeting of the Soviet minister with President Bush at the White House is scheduled for 14:00, Washington time, on Thursday [21 September]. He will depart for Wyoming state later in the day where talks will be held with Secretary of State Baker in the village of Jackson Hole on September 22-23. The idea of holding the meeting outside Washington, in the American west, belongs to the U.S. side.

Discussions at working expert groups became a permanent feature in the Soviet-American dialogue since the summit in Reykjavik in 1986. However, they gathered for the first time this year several days before talks so as to ensure their good start. This fact, as it is, is regarded by the American press as evidence of a chance to achieve some progress in discussing problems of arms control. A pronouncement by a high-ranking State Department official is another sign of the fact that the Bush administration which had taken a very cautious stand towards the Soviet-American dialogue since coming into office in January, referring to the need for a thorough analysis of problems, is, maybe, now ready to start serious negotiations on the entire agenda of relations between the two countries. The official described the present moment in relations with Moscow as the end of the initial stage. Referring to this diplomat, the newspaper THE WASHINGTON POST writes that people who will conduct talks and pursue policy were picked up and the agenda was drafted for the start of discussions in various spheres.

Judging by statements of U.S. officials in the past few weeks, the agenda of the U.S. side at the coming meeting in Wyoming will be as follows. The Bush administration is ready to discuss the question on another summit but it wants to know in advance what Moscow will offer at this meeting. As for the question of cutting strategic weapons and the problem of space arms, according to THE WASHINGTON POST, it is not expected in this field that the United States will make any first decisive move. Instead, in case the USSR declares dramatic unilateral actions, it will be ready perhaps to meet them halfway with less decisive but important steps.

The U.S. approach to the problem of banning chemical weapons and limiting underground nuclear tests looks much more positive. To all appearances, Washington is ready to agree to the latest Soviet proposals on inspecting American and Soviet chemical arsenals and agrees "in principle" to control over underground nuclear tests with a force of less than 150 kilotons.

Afghanistan and Central America will dominate the agenda on regional relations.

Washington now regards the human rights theme as very ticklish. The United States which used to put it at the top of the list of items under discussion, was, in fact, taken unawares, since the USSR lifted many restrictions on emigration in the period of perestroyka and glasnost. Last week Washington was even forced to announce that it cannot admit as refugees all Jews who emigrated from the Soviet Union, due to a shortage of funds. This means that thousands of them will not be able to come to the U.S.

It is expected that the sides will also discuss strengthening of Soviet-American cooperation in combatting international terrorism, narcotics smuggling and an agreement on simplification of trips for Alaska and Chukchi residents.

Shevardnadze-Baker Meeting Previewed

PM1509115789 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 15 Sep 89 First Edition p 3

[Manki Ponomarev "Observer's Opinion": "What Will Be the Next Step?"]

[Text] The author of this article has had to tackle the topic of Soviet-U.S. relations on several occasions of late. But these relations are so complex and diverse, influenced by such varying and sometimes diametrically opposed factors, and, lastly, so important not only for our two countries and peoples but also for the entire world and all mankind that our thoughts return to them over and over. Especially on the eve of the upcoming meeting between the heads of the USSR and U.S. foreign policy departments, E.A. Shevardnadze and J.Baker, which is to take place 22-23 September.

Without any doubt this meeting will be an important landmark on the difficult path of developing relations between the two superpowers. Despite all the zigzags on this path, the difficult slopes and sharp descents, it is becoming increasingly perceptible that a genuine breakthrough from confrontation to dialogue has been made in recent years. We have begun to perceive one another's interests in a more realistic fashion and have attained mutual acknowledgment of the inadmissibility of war and the vital need for a transition from confrontation to intensive dialogue. Moreover, a need—and it is important to stress this—for both sides, Soviet and U.S. The common realization that we must act in a spirit of constructive continuity, preserving our achievements

and stepping up joint efforts to broaden the areas of consensus and mutual understanding, stems from this need dictated by time.

Both the Soviet Union and the United States hold this viewpoint in principle. It is not only statements by both countries' officials that can be cited as evidence of this but also practical agreements and accords. Suffice it to say that there are currently approximately 40 government agreements in operation between the USSR and the United States.

Nevertheless the picture of Soviet-U.S. relations cannot be described as idyllic. Alongside the many positive elements there are, unfortunately, many elements that cannot be rated as positive. This burdens relations between our countries, slows down the rate of progress, and has an adverse effect on the entire system of international cooperation.

For instance, one cannot help but complain that the process of nuclear weapons limitation and reduction, which began in a splendid fashion with the conclusion of the Treaty on Intermediate-Range and Shorter-Range Missiles, has still not been further developed and reached its logical conclusion. It should have been followed by a treaty on a 50-percent reduction in USSR and U.S. strategic offensive arms. But the talks on this subject have ground to a halt. And by no means due to the Soviet Union, which has presented its practical ideas on all the unresolved questions at these talks. It is up to the U.S. side, which has still not elaborated its position and has not shown a willingness to do its part.

Moreover, voices have begun to be heard in Washington once again talking not of reductions but of the buildup and further modernization of strategic arms. Moreover, these are not the voices of some irresponsible politicians but those of the most high-ranking representatives of the administration. This was the vein, for instance, of President G. Bush's speech at the American Legion Congress. Admittedly, the President tried to impart a favorable appearance to his appeals for a buildup in the arms race. He is convinced that it is impossible to "make the Soviet Union reduce its forces through unilateral disarmament" and that the U.S. "program for the modernization of strategic forces should prompt the Soviet Union to cooperate with us in lessening the threat of nuclear war." But in fact the speech by the head of the White House sounded like a panegyric to the new intercontinental ballistic missiles, submarine-launched ballistic missiles, and strategic bombers—all the components of the U.S. strategic offensive forces, whose might is not to be lessened but increased many times.

In the context of this panegyric the remark that the Soviet Union "has not supported its words with actions" in the matter of strategic arms reductions was hypocritical. Hypocritical and hard to explain. Was it only perhaps to vindicate their own modernization program?

However, statements of this kind are not very typical of G. Bush now. He speaks out far more frequently in favor of the constructive development of Soviet-U.S. relations and assesses positively the significance of perestroyka in the USSR. Unfortunately, you cannot say the same about U.S. Vice President D. Quayle. Expressing the viewpoint of America's most conservative circles, he permits flagrant attacks on the Soviet Union.

It is not only a matter of statements on the part of various people. Let me take the liberty of recalling that routine NATO "Autumn Forge-89" maneuvers have been mounted in the last few days throughout Western Europe—from northern Norway to the eastern borders of Turkey, from Gibraltar to the Elbe, and in the surrounding seas. More than 200,000 servicemen and a vast quantity of arms and combat hardware are involved in these maneuvers, while in terms of character they are hard to distinguish from the deployment of strike groupings near the borders of socialist states for real military operations. Should one say that the U.S. Armed Forces and their leadership are not only playing the role of first string, but also of conductor in these maneuvers.

So, the question arises, whose words are at variance with their actions?

Evidently there are influential forces in the United States who do not like the achievement of stabilization in international relations in general and in Soviet-U.S. relations in particular. They would not be averse to exploiting the difficulties that the Soviet Union is encountering in the process of perestroyka in order to weaken our positions and seek unilateral advantages. Although these hopes cannot be described as anything but unfounded, nevertheless the dangers of gambling on destabilization must not be underestimated.

You get the impression that people in Washington have still not decided what kind of relations the United States needs with the Soviet Union and have not elaborated a clear long-term strategy for relations between the two superpowers. Hence the vacillation, the equivocation, and the contradictions in U.S. policy. The result is that the possibilities for the development of equal and mutually beneficial cooperation between our countries and their advance along the path opened up by the new political thinking remain unrealized.

That is why the upcoming meeting between E.A. Shevardnadze and J. Baker is so important in my opinion. Notwithstanding all the complexities, it does have the possibility of being the point of departure for the next step in relations between the Soviet Union and the United States—a step toward constructive cooperation in order to achieve a higher level of stability, security, and trust. Realism must gain the upper hand over the old prejudices and fears and then new horizons will be revealed to the peoples of our countries and the peoples of the entire world.

Expectations on Chemical Warfare Issue

LD1509142889 Moscow TASS in English 1410 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 15 TASS—By TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev:

The forthcoming meeting between Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State James Baker in Wyoming has riveted close international attention, with the overriding question on everyone's mind being whether it will give a fresh fillip to the disarmament negotiations.

This is a difficult question and the answer should include many aspects. One of these is an area where the existing situation offers grounds for predicting progress—the signing of a bilateral Soviet-U.S. agreement on chemical weapons, which could help complete work on a multilateral convention to prohibit and destroy such weapons.

Is it realistic to expect such an agreement? Yes, it is.

Soviet-American consultations on a chemical weapons ban have recently made headway. There are signs of consent on important practical moves, such as that the agreement should bind the two countries to disclose data about the quantities, types and storage sites of their chemical weapons and to allow on-site inspections at short notice even before the multilateral convention is signed.

A bilateral agreement formalising these understandings would provide an extra incentive to finalise the convention as soon as possible.

The multilateral document, however, is not yet really close at hand. The United States is yet to give a positive answer to one extremely important question of verification, namely whether verification arrangements will cover all private chemical plants, including those not filling any government orders, as well as facilities belonging to transnational corporations, regardless of which country they are located in.

Whether verification will be comprehensive or selective depends on how this problem is resolved.

The current U.S. posture provides for all enterprises in socialist countries to be subject to inspection, as they belong to the particular governments, while in capitalist countries some factories would be beyond control.

Another sticking point concerns procedures for destroying chemical weapons stockpiles and production facilities, which must unfailingly include the destruction of the U.S. stocks of new chemical weapons—binary munitions.

The Soviet Union announced the cessation of chemical weapons manufacture way back in April 1987. U.S. President George Bush has repeatedly declared his personal desire to see a full-scale, effectively verifiably and truly global ban on chemical weapons. So isn't it high time for the United States to stop developing ever further chemical warfare agents?

This year alone, 100 million dollars will be spent by the United States on research, development and production of a new generation of binary weapons. The question arises: Why should one want to spend enormous funds to produce weapons that will soon have to be destroyed?

It would be useful to put these questions to Secretary of State Baker at the Wyoming meeting. A fresh impulse to the disarmament process must be given. The pause in this process, which started with George Bush's entry into the White House, has now lasted for too long.

Shevardnadze-Baker Meeting Previewed

LD1509174689 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Another meeting between the leaders of the foreign policy departments of the USSR and the United States is due to be held in the United States next week. In this connection, the U.S. press is already full of all sorts of speculations and predictions. I asked our political observer Aleksandr Zholkver to analyze these materials, and here he is:

[Zholkver] Let me remind you that this will be the fourth meeting between Eduard Amvrosiyevich Shevardnadze and U.S. Secretary of State Baker; and on each occasion the meeting has been an important milestone in the development of Soviet-U.S. relations. This time, our minister emphasizes that the necessary preconditions have now been created for advancing the Soviet-U.S. dialogue to a new horizon. The ministers' task is, in particular, to clear the way for a new meeting between the top leaders of the USSR and United States. President Bush, who, in turn, speaks of a new closeness between our countries, has just confirmed that he is willing to meet with Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev at any time. He also reiterates constantly that he supports perestroyka and hopes it will succeed.

Of course, no one expects any philanthropy from Washington. All we need are real and, I would say, mutually advantageous actions in the key areas, and above all on the issues of providing for mutual security. And in this respect, all the pious wishes of the present Washington administration are not as yet, unfortnately, being transformed into concrete deeds. Moreover, in such a key area as reduction of nuclear and space arms, not only is there no progress, but in some respects we're further from an agreement than under the previous Washington administration. The talks on nuclear tests have also been in effect, put on ice. Yesterday, for instance, the United States again carried out a nuclear explosion at their test site in Nevada—the eighth this year.

What, then, is the reason for this inconsistency, if you like, in the current stance of the present Washington administration, with President Bush saying one thing, vice President Quayle something else, and Pentagon

Chief Cheney meanwhile distributing new military orders? I think the primary role is being played here by the all-too-familiar U.S. military-industrial complex.

In a long analytic article published in a recent issue of the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL, I saw these remarkable data: The U.S. military-industrial complex now embraces 40,000 enterprises. About 26 million Americans are directly or indirectly living on the Pentagon budget of some $300 million. And yet I think the omnipotence of the military-industrial complex is coming to an end. And that, too, is one of the consequences of our perestroyka, because, as the U.S. magazine NEWSWEEK expressed it, Mikhail Gorbachev has made the arms build-up meaningless: The Soviet Union is depriving us of our enemy. Let us hope that the forthcoming meeting of the foreign ministers of our countries will activate that very important process still further.

Western Sources Cited on Yeltsin's U.S. Trip

PM1709142989 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 17 Sep 89 p 1

[From unattributed "Dialogue" feature: "Yeltsin in America"—first two paragraphs are reader's letter]

[Text] What are people in the West saying about B. Yeltsin's trip to the United States?
[Signed] N. Sergeyev, Tomsk.

Radio Liberty Commentary

"The unofficial visit by Supreme Soviet Deputy Yeltsin to the United States is drawing to its close. It will end Sunday....

"It was planned that Yeltsin would spend more time in America, but the program of his visit has been cut short in view of the need to get back in time for the CPSU Central Committee Plenum opening next week in Moscow. On Thursday the Soviet guest visited Ronald Reagan. The former U.S. president has undergone an operation and is recuperating in the Holy Mary Hospital in the state of Minnesota. Yeltsin presented Reagan with a bunch of red roses. The meeting lasted 20 minutes.

"Much of Yeltsin's speech in Chicago was devoted to the deepening crisis in the Soviet Union. Noting that 48 million Soviet citizens are below the poverty line, Yeltsin said literally the following: 'We are on the brink of the abyss.' And he added that perestroyka's supporters have scarcely more than a year."

BBC Broadcast

"In New York Boris Yeltsin held a press conference and invited U.S. journalists to the apartment of the Schwartzes, the couple with whom he was staying.

" 'You seem to have a high opinion of the capitalist world. Do you believe that the 1917 revolution was a mistake?' journalists asked him.

" 'No, I do not admit that the revolution was a mistake, you and we have too different histories and too different ages. You are over 200 years old, Western democracy, I mean, but we are a little over 70. But we have always given ideas priority over practical reality, and "slogan" socialism was built in our country....' "

Verbatim

After seeing the sights of Philadelphia B. Yeltsin addressed a dinner at the Council for International Affairs attended by more than 800 people. He is to be paid $25,000 for the speech, which he has said he will donate for charitable purposes....

"We need to change some of our land ownership and property laws so this can become possible," he stated via an interpreter [sentence as published]. "If foreigners can buy land they will make investments."

Yeltsin said that he does not expect any retaliatory measures after his frank criticism of the situation in his country.

"I speak out just as frankly over there as I do here," Yeltsin said. "I try to practice the diplomacy of truth. I think we should abandon the old-fashioned diplomacy whereby people try to outwit each other."

(AP report from Philadelphia)

The best thing that America can say to Moscow is that of the Soviet leaders we prefer Gorbachev. He is having to surmount monstrous obstacles, but by his reforms at home and abroad he has won a trust that is not inspired by Boris Yeltsin's demagogic arguments.

(The Baltimore SUN)

Official Opinion

At a routine briefing White House Press Secretary M. Fitzwater was asked the following questions:

"Why did President Bush meet with Yeltsin virtually in secret rather than receiving him openly, like any other opposition leader visiting the United States?"

"We wanted everything to take place at the appropriate level. We wanted to meet with him as an elected Soviet official and we wanted to hear his opinion, but we also wanted to demonstrate that we are not providing a platform for the expression of dissent."

"Yeltsin asked people to help perestroyka. Are there any indications that he was speaking on behalf of Gorbachev?"

"You had better ask Yeltsin himself that. I tend to think he was speaking on his own behalf. That is the impression that emerges from his press conference in New York and his other speeches. But in fact I know nothing."

BBC Comment Cited on Yeltsin Tour

PM1509154389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under the general heading: "Interview and Commentary"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted]

BBC's Opinion

Of course, Boris Yeltsin is still a committed Communist. But in America he seems to be in his element.

Yeltsin's political significance is not a consequence of the intellectual magnetism of his program. It is possible to say of his program, at the very least, that it is inconsistent.

Yeltsin constantly criticizes Gorbachev's program of reforms for seeking to advance over too wide a front instead of concentrating his efforts in certain most important spheres—agriculture and the problem of consumer goods, for example.

However, Yeltsin himself seems to want to advance over a still wider front. Yeltsin calls for a discussion of such seemingly undiscussable issues as the single-party system.

Will this inconsistency affect Yeltsin's political career? He is a populist, someone who tells people what they want to hear. Yeltsin's political influence is accounted for to a considerable degree by his personal qualities. He is a confident speaker when addressing large unofficial gatherings.

The growing informal movements do, of course, have other leaders, but these leaders are almost without exception intellectuals. These people find it hard to put themselves on a level with the crowd. Yeltsin is in no way an intellectual but a professional politician, and so you get the impression that his political career has not yet peaked.

China

Lukyanov Concludes Meetings, Visit to China

Yang Shangkun Greets Soviet Cosmonaut

LD1509203189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 15 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; V. Kulikov video report]

[Text] The visit to the PRC by the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by Comrade Lukyanov is continuing.

[Kulikov] PRC President Comrade Yang Shangkun has received the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, which is in China, led by Comrade Lukyanov. [Video shows the two men shaking hands; then shots of meeting] During the conversation, which passed in a friendly atmosphere, it was emphasized that it is now important for our countries to go forward and to fill with real business the understandings reached during Comrade Gorbachev's visit to China in May.

This is a deviation from the accepted protocol for such meetings. [video shows man in white suit shaking hands with Yang Shangkun] The president goes over to delegation member Savinykh to give a warm welcome to the Soviet cosmonaut. Comrade Yang Shangkun asks how the Great Wall of China looks from space. [video shows meeting scenes]

China's machine-tool building plant no 1 is one of the largest enterprises in the Chinese capital. [video: factory scenes] Some 7,500 workers manufacture 3,000 machine tools annually. The Soviet delegation visited this place, too. The plant is the same age as the Chinese revolution, whose 40th anniversary will be celebrated on 1 October this year. At that time, in the fifties, Soviet specialists took part in its work. There have been many changes here over the years. Modernization has taken place. The plant has been reconstructed several times.

Not in need of reconstruction, however, is the workers' warm and friendly attitude toward our country, and a conversation about that with the workers took place on the factory floor. [Video shows Lukyanov talking to workers; Lukyanov is heard to say: "...to take part, otherwise it's always like that with us."]

Lukyanov-Yang Shangkun Meeting Reported

LD1509151189 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0930 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Beijing September 15 TASS—Yang Shanghun, chairman of the People's Republic of China, today received a delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet (parliament) led by Soviet First Vice-President Anatoliy Lukyanov.

Yang Shangkun warmly thanked the Soviet delegation for a message of greetings and best wishes from President Mikhail Gorbachev to the Chinese leadership.

During talks held in a friendly atmosphere, the two sides noted that, as a result of the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations, favorable opportunities are growing to develop further mutually advantageous contacts between the USSR and China in various spheres. It was pointed out that it is important now to advance and to build on understandings reached during Gorbachev's visit to China in May.

Experience showed that the development and expansion of exchanges between the organs of state authority of the two countries are useful for both states, since these exchanges help teach better practical work on implementing reforms and strengthen good-neighborly relations and mutual trust, the sides noted.

The Chinese side heard with great interest how changes in the economic and political fields are developing in the

Soviet Union. The Chinese chairman supported the idea expressed by Lukyanov that reforms should be based on principles of socialism aimed at consolidating and developing people's democracy.

Yang Shangkun described steps taken in China to implement the tasks of modernizing the country, streamlining the economy in accordance with decisions adopted by the latest session of the National People's Congress and overcoming difficulties in the way of sweeping changes in various spheres of economy, politics and social life.

The delegation conveyed congratulations to the Chinese people on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, to be marked on October 1.

The same day the Soviet delegation visited the Beijing Machine-Building Works No 1. During their visit to this, one of the largest enterprises in the Chinese capital, the Soviet parliamentarians showed interest in questions of reform in industry, social security, the environment and how the housing problem is being tackled. In the workshops, and on the shop floor, the office and factory workers noted unanimously during the course of a lively discussion with the USSR People's Deputies that the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations embodied the kindly feelings of the Chinese people toward the peoples of the Soviet Union. The Chinese working people are following closely the progress of perestroyka in the USSR and wish it great success. They express confidence that the Soviet-Chinese relations of a new type meet the fundamental interests of the two great socialist neighbor countries, and that their future development will foster the successful implementation of reform in China and of perestroyka in the Soviet Union, and the consolidation of the gains of socialism.

Today the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation left for Wuhan, the administrative centre of Hubei province.

Delegation Visits Hubei Province

LD1609212189 Moscow TASS in English 1834 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Beijing September 16 TASS—A delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, led by First Vice President Anatoliy Lukyanov, staying on a visit in China, has visited Wuhan, the administrative centre of Hubei Province.

Huang Zhizhen, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Hubei People's Congress, said at a meeting with the Soviet delegation that Wuhan was "the cradle of Chinese-Soviet friendship", adding that "Soviet comrades gave their lives in Wuhan, defending the city from Japanese aggressors."

The Soviet parliamentarians laid a wreath at the monument to Soviet pilots who participated in the Chinese people's war against Japanese invaders.

The supreme Soviet delegation also visited the Wuhan Metalworks, reconstructed with Soviet assistance in 1958-1963. The Soviet Union is now participating in the modernisation of the third blast-furnace and plans to develop cooperation with the plant.

Tonight, the Soviet delegation left for Shanghai.

Lukyanov Tours Liberation Park

LD1609185689 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 16 Sep 89

[V. Kulikov video report; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by Comrade Lukyanov is continuing its official friendly visit to the PRC. [Video shows Lukyanov and entourage looking round city and bridge and laying wreath] These places are famous for their traditions of friendly ties with our country: the magnificent bridge joining the three towns of Wuchang, Hankou, and Hanyang on the banks of the Yangtze into one town, Wuhan, the capital of the central Chinese province of Hubei; China's major metallurgical combine, and other Chinese-Soviet cooperation projects of the 1950's, all recall the traditions of friendship. Now these traditions are being reestablished, ties between the peoples of the Soviet Union and China are expanding, having got, as it were, their second wind after the normalization of relations between our countries.

The foundation of these ties, though, was laid back in the 1940's, when Soviet pilots perished in the skies above Wuhan, defending the civilian population of the town against the air-raids by Japanese squadrons. This monument in the town's Liberation Park, is in memory of 1938.

The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet led by Comrade Lukyanov came here to honor the memory of our fellow countrymen, who, as the Chinese newspaper wrote at the time, left their motherland and their near and dear ones and voluntarily came to smouldering China; their blood, shed in the cause of liberating the Chinese people, mingles with the blood of their Chinese brothers. They are, however, not only preserved in these funeral inscriptions and on the pages of newspapers, they are also in the people's memory.

Delegation Welcomed in Wuhan

PM1809135989 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Sep 89 Second Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Stay in Wuhan"]

[Text] Beijing, 16 Sep—The traditions of Soviet-Chinese friendship should be continued and developed—that has been the theme of all the official talks held by the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by A.I. Lukyanov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politbureau and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, which has been in Wuhan, administrative center of Hubei Province, during its visit to China.

Wuhan is the cradle of Sino-Soviet friendship, Huang Zhizhen, president of the Hubei People's Assembly Standing Committee, stated at a meeting with the USSR people's deputies. Soviet comrades gave their lives on our city's territory in defending it against the Japanese aggressors. During the initial period of socialist-building Soviet people gave the people of the province great help and support. Consequently, the friendship between Chinese and Soviet people is sealed in the blood they shed together on the battlefields and by their joint and intensive peaceful labor.

More than 200 Soviet pilots fought and died in China's skies for the Chinese people's freedom and independence. The inhabitants of the city keep sacred the memory of the internationalist servicemen who wrote a glorious page in the annals of Soviet-Chinese relations.

"Eternal glory to the Soviet volunteer pilots who perished in the Chinese people's war against the Japanese invaders"—this phrase in Russian and Chinese is inscribed in gold on a granite monument to Soviet pilots. The Soviet parliamentarians laid a wreath at the monument and observed a minute's silence in their memory.

There is other evidence in Wuhan of the friendship and cooperation between our two countries. The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation visited the bridge built with Soviet assistance over the Chang Jiang [Yangtze], China's longest river. This two-tier road and rail bridge linking southern and northern China still plays a highly important role in the economic life of the entire country today.

During the afternoon the Soviet parliamentarians visited the Wuhan Metallurgical Combine, which is one of the largest such enterprises in China. It was modernized in 1958-1963 with Soviet help.

The Soviet representatives received a warm welcome from the combine's workers and employees. In numerous conversations they noted that the normalization of Soviet-Chinese relations accords with the fundamental interests of both countries' peoples and, consequently, they warmly welcome it. Many of them well remember their Russian, Ukrainian, and Belorussian mentors, alongside whom they learned the subtleties of the new technology and assimilated the equipment.

The Wuhan Metallurgical Plant is developing and being renewed. The USSR is taking part in modernizing the no 3 blast furnace, and there are plans for the further development of such ties.

Having ended its stay in Wuhan, the delegation of Soviet parliamentarians left for Shanghai this evening.

Lukyanov Arrival in Shanghai Reported

OW1709171289 Moscow in Mandarin to Southeast Asia 1100 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] The members of the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation, led by its first vice chairman Lukyanov, are continuing their visit to China. On Saturday [16 September] evening, the delegation arrived in Shanghai. In this regard, a newspaper in Shanghai remarked: This visit once again proves that the two nations plan to implement, with actual deeds, the agreement to normalize their relations.

Lukyanov, Delegation Visit Shanghai

LD1709222289 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1630 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Shanghai, 17 Sep (TASS)—The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by A.I. Lukyanov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, which is visiting China, has arrived in Shanghai, the PRC" major industrial center.

The USSR people's deputies began their visit to the city by visiting the shipyard, one of the leading enterprises in the industry. Workers and office staff greeted the Soviet guests cordially. There were lively conversations between the Shanghai shipbuilders and members of the Soviet delegaiton in the workshops and on the grounds. The conversations mainly dealt with issues concerning the reforms being conducted in China, changes in working conditions, pay, social provisions, and everyday life. There was complete agreement that the aspiration to strengthen friendship and cooperation between the working classes and peoples of the two countries was mutual and in keeping with the interests of China and of the Soviet Union and that bilateral relations must develop on a mutually beneficial basis.

A meeting today between USSR people's deputies and representatives of Shanghai's local organs of authority demonstrated an aspiration and preparedness to strengthen friendship. It was noted that the implementation of the accords reached during M.S. Gorbachev's visit to China in May was the guarantee that Soviet-Chinese contacts would be consolidated and expanded.

In the evening the USSR Supreme Soviet delegation met with the staff of the USSR Consulate General in Shanghai and members of their families. There was a thorough and committed conversation on issues concerning the implementation of perestroyka in the Soviet Union and the activity of the Supreme Soviet.

Delegation Departs Shangai

LD1809064389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0600 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] The delegation of the USSR Supreme Soviet headed by Lukyanov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politbureau, first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, which was in the PRC from 12-18 September, left Shanghai for Moscow today.

In the morning, the Soviet parliamentarians laid flowers at the monument to Pushkin, who is well known and read in China. During meetings in Beijing and other

cities of the PRC, it was noted that the current visit by the delegation of USSR People's Deputies had been successful and played an important role in developing ties between the organs of state power of the two countries, facilitating the development of friendship between the peoples of the Soviet Union and China.

Lukyanov Returns to Moscow, Comments

LD1809135389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1335 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 18 Sep (TASS)—The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation led by Anatoliy Lukyanov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politbureau and first deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet, today returned to Moscow from China.

Anatoliy Lukyanov told TASS immediately after his plane landed in Moscow: 'We are pleased with the results of the visit. Our aim was to fill with real content the accords achieved at summit level during Mikhail Gorbachev's visit to China. A number of measures through parliamentary channels have been agreed on. In short, we have agreed to give our relations the fullness of action—gradually but steadily, step by step.'

'During the visit our delegation was received by the leadership of the PRC. We had talks at a high level. Overall they were positive, though there are difficulties, which we shall gradually unravel.'

Lukyanov's Visit Viewed

OW1809050589 Moscow International Service in Mandarin 1400 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Our station's Beijing correspondent believes that the visit to China by the Soviet parliament delegation led by Lukyanov, first deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, has been an event of great significance.

The Soviet delegation met with leaders of China's National People's Congress [NPC] and visited a number of places. It also met with PRC President Yang Shangkun.

Speaking to Chinese parliamentarians in the Great Hall of the People, Lukyanov said the important issue is to enhance mutual understanding between the two peoples and to make the two peoples better understand the problems facing the Soviet Union and China with regard to reforms and the task of improving socialism.

Both sides pointed out in the talks held in the past few days that at present the two nations should work hard to realize the high-level agreement on cooperation in various fields reached by Soviet and Chinese leaders when Gorbachev visited China in May. As the highest authorities in the Soviet Union and China, the Supreme Soviet and NPC play an important role in carrying out this task.

In exchanging views, both sides also pointed out that there is no single uniform pattern of building socialism. Every nation is entitled to decide its own fate, to determine the priorities and intensity of its reforms, and to develop theories of application [yun yong li lun] based on its actual domestic conditions.

Commenting on the results of the visit by the Soviet parliamentary delegation, local observers hold that Soviet-Chinese relations in many aspects of the political and economic spheres are developing rapidly.

Near East & South Asia

Foreign Ministry Statment on 'Savage' Kabul Bombing

PM1809142589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Sep 89 Second Edition p 4

["USSR Foreign Ministry Statement"—PRAVDA headline]

[Text] The Afghan armed opposition has carried out another act of terrorism. On 15 September it again shelled the Soviet Embassy in Kabul. One building in direct proximity to the residential compound was considerably damaged from an explosion on the embassy grounds. It was sheer luck that no embassy staffer or Soviet specialist was injured. However, other shells which were aimed at the Soviet Embassy but exploded nearby in residential parts of the city caused casualties among the Afghan civilian population.

This savage act, incompatible with all humanitarian norms, is further proof that the Afghan insurgents, having failed in their widely trumpeted plans to capture Jalalabad, Khowst, and Qandahar, are staking everything on the tactics of terror and violence aimed not just against their own people but against foreign diplomatic missions as well. The other day, an aircraft of the UN Good Offices Mission in Afghanistan and Pakistan (Ungomap) was the target for their terror; now it is the Soviet Embassy again. It is not ruled out that tomorrow the lives of other foreign representatives in Kabul will be threatened.

This upsurge in terrorist activity cannot go unpunished. The Soviet Union will give all necessary moral and material support to the legitimate Afghan Government in its efforts to stop these barbaric, bloody insurgent attacks. They should be clearly aware of the full responsibility they bear in making attempts on the lives of Soviet citizens and killing their own countrymen.

It is well known that the United States and Pakistan wield great influence over the Afghan armed opposition, supplying it with weapons and giving it all kinds of other help. In this respect the Soviet side calls on the U.S. and Pakistani Governments, which have repeatedly opposed international terrorism, to exert all the necessary influence on the insurgents to stop such criminal actions. Otherwise the Soviet Union reserves the right to take any

measures it deems expedient in order to safeguard the security of the Soviet Embassy and Soviet citizens in Kabul.

Decree Pardoning POW's in Afghanistan Drafted

LD1709132789 Moscow TASS in English 1342 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 17 TASS—The Supreme Soviet of the USSR has drafted a decree "on amnesty concerning former servicemen of the limited contingent of Soviet Armed Forces in Afghanistan who have committed crimes and were taken prisoner by the Afghan armed opposition."

In its report of the matter, the newspaper IZVESTIYA recalls today that more than a year ago, the country's procurator general said on behalf of the Soviet state that Soviet soldiers and officers who were captured or gave themselves up would be granted all the rights of Soviet citizens under the Constitution.

The promise was kept without exceptions. Now the next step is needed so as to let not only the procurator's office in its practice but also the legislator lay down the amnesty for those who happened to become a POW in Afghanistan once and for all.

The newspaper quotes Colonel V. Makarchenko, senior assistant to the chief military procurator explaining what kinds of crime are taken into account in granting amnesty.

"Those who have come back from captivity or are still suffering in captivity are often depicted as absolutely innocent victims of war," he said.

"It is not quite true, because during nine Afghan years, there were cases of treason, desertion, crossing over to the enemy side, common human negligence and carelessness when a soldier absented himself from his unit without official leave, sought all kind of contacts with the population and eventually ended up in the enemy's hands."

"Many of these people inflicted punishment upon themselves—they paid with years of painful experiences and privations in Afghan rebels camps and other countries."

"Many have repented their transgressions and would like to return to their homeland from, say, the United States and Canada, but are afraid that legal action will be taken against them."

"The amnesty will enable them to make their final choice," Makarchenko said.

At present, several thousand former "Afghan" servicemen are serving their sentences for crimes committed in Afghanistan. The jurist explains that they were convicted in strict accordance with law, not martial law, but peace-time law.

No simplifications were permitted in the course of investigation and trial. Their transgressions cover practically the whole range of crimes envisaged by the criminal code, but the list is dominated by misappropriation including thefts of military property, smuggling and profiteering.

There are people who were convicted for crimes against individuals and abuse of power.

A great number of pleas for clemency come pouring in. Most of the convicts have served major parts of their terms. This is why, with due account of the changed situation, the chief military procurator's office has begun reconsidering cases of the "Afghan" servicemen.

Some punishments have already been mitigated, others have been annulled and the people released.

"But we still think it is insufficient: the Supreme Soviet must define its stance on the matter," Makarchenko said.

Afghan Statement on U.S. Arms Supplies Cited

LD1509165389 Moscow TASS in English 1624 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul September 15 TASS—By starting the supply of most up-to-date armaments and military aircraft to units of rebels, the United States has become directly involved in the conflict, says a statement of a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry of the Republic of Afghanistan circulated here.

Developments indicate that U.S. leaders show contempt for norms of international law and the United Nations Charter, which cannot but have a negative effect on the situation in the world.

They ignore the opinion of those Americans who are striving for a political settlement and an early end to the fratricidal war in Afghanistan and for the stabilisation in the entire region. At a time when the Afghan leadership makes proposals for a political settlement to the problem of Afghanistan, the course of the U.S. Administration at the solution of the conflict by force is doomed to failure.

The Afghan people are ready to rebuff any outside interference. Direct supplies of armaments to the opposition are fraught with most serious consequences, the statement says.

Najibullah Speech at Media Meeting Reported

LD1709180489 Moscow TASS in English 1756 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul September 17 TASS—Afghan President Najibullah received today delegations which attended the international seminar "The Role of the Mass Media in Settling Regional Conflicts." Speaking to meeting participants, the Afghan leader pointed out that, despite the fact that Afghanistan and the Soviet Union strictly observe the provisions of the Geneva agreements, the

interference in the domestic affairs of the sovereign state, bloodshed and war in Afghanistan have not stopped. However, the policy of national reconciliation, the key factor for a successful political settlement of the Afghan problem, has yielded impressive results.

Speaking of the role of the mass media of various countries in settling regional conflicts, Najibullah said that the Western press, radio and television do not portray an objective picture of growing foreign interference in Afghanistan's affairs.

The Afghan president called on representatives of the mass media to make their contribution to the earliest settlement of the Afghan problem and restoration of peace and security on Afghan soil.

Najibullah replied to questions of meeting participants on the military and political situation in the country and new peace initiatives of the Afghan Government.

A news conference of several Afghan military leaders was held here later in the day for participants in the international seminar. Speaking at the news conference, A.H. Ulumi, head of the Armed Forces Department of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, informed the meeting of successes scored by government troops in protecting independence and territorial integrity of the republic.

Afghan Rebels Try To Wreck Media Conference

LD1609182789 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Correspondent V. Fadeyev report: from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] An international seminar is under way in Kabul devoted to the role of the mass media in settling regional conflicts.

For those taking part in the conference convincing proof that the path of war and terrorism has been chosen by the rebels as the main method of resolving the Afghan problem has been provided by the personal impressions of their stay in Kabul during these days. In trying to wreck the work of this forum, the opposition subjected the airport to massed shelling. An aircraft of the UN Good Offices Mission was seriously damaged in the process. The capital is daily subjected to shelling. A rocket exploded yesterday on the territory of the Soviet Embassy.

In their speeches the participants in the seminar stressed repeatedly that it is not only people that are being killed in Afghanistan at the present time. They are destroying trust there, as an important element in any state relations. They are killing hope of the very possibility of settling regional conflicts.

Precisely for this reason there was a great deal of discussion that coverage of events in and around Afghanistan requires only an honest and objective approach to them by all of the mass media. In the documents adopted at the seminar, its participants once again reminded heads of state and government, the United Nations, and the whole of the world community that the destruction of the positive achievements in the mechanism for settling regional conflicts is impermissible. [Video shows seminar in progress, wrecked aircraft, damage at Soviet Embassy]

Reports That Rebels Hold Shindand Prove False

LD1509230289 Moscow TASS in English 2241 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Shindand, Afghanistan September 16 TASS—By TASS Correspondent Andrei Greshnov:

Several days ago, THE WASHINGTON POST, and later the Voice of America radio station circulated a report that Shindand District in the Afghan province of Herat is held by rebels. Soviet journalists who arrived on the spot could see the real worth of statements of the Western media which seek to mislead the public about the real state of affairs in Afghanistan.

The streets of the city were bustling, shops were doing business. True, there were armoured carriers and combat vehicles in the streets and their cannons and machine guns were trained on areas of greenery, but there were no rebels in the city. Life in Shindand was normal.

Journalists learned from people near the town hall that the fighting had taken place nearby. But the opposition forces were taught a lesson. The rebels left dozens of killed on the battlefield.

The journalists arrived in Charmahal Village and were met there by 'Abdul Qader, commander of a battalion of territorial troops (former rebels who went over to the side of the state authorities).

It is precisely his battalion consisting of 67 soldiers that bore the brunt of the strongest blow by groups of the Islamic Society, commanded by field commander Turan Ismail.

It should be noted that Charmahal is the native village of Ismail, former officer of the Afghan Army who went over to the opposition shortly before the April revolution.

His own house is intact to this day, but he did not spare the houses of his compatriots. The bandits sustained a defeat in the six-day battle during which they put up considerable resistance to government troops. Before retreating, the bandi. set on fire or blew up dozens of buildings, destroyed crops of wheat and rice, killed cattle.

Residents who did not leave the area of hostilities perished. As many as 20 women, children and old people who were hiding from shells and missiles behind adobe walls of their house got killed.

On the second day of the fighting when opposition forces succeeded in advancing to forward positions of the defending forces, artillery and aviation were launched into battle.

By the end of the sixth day of fighting the rebels panicked and retreated, leaving 120 dead bodies in the battlefield.

The bandits were saying they would sieze Charmahal and Shindand within two days of launching the offensive, but this was merely boastful talk. Charmahal and Shindand are held by government troops.

Thus the sensational report from Western sources proved to be another canard aimed at misleading the world public which is closely following the developments related to long-suffering Afghanistan.

Afghan Rebels Reportedly Hit by Army Attacks

LD1809104189 Moscow TASS in English 1127 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Kabul September 18 TASS—Afghan Army units defending the city of Khowst retaliated rebels' shelling of security outposts with air and missile strikes against rebel positions, killing or wounding 120 men and blasting an ammunition truck belonging to the opposition.

In the past 24 hours the rebels lost another 60 men in Nangarhar Province. The regular army and the opposition also exchanged intense artillery fire in Qandahar Province's Torkotal [name as received] District.

Afghan security personnel outside Kabul discovered and defused six surface-to-surface missiles primed to be fired on the capital, BAKHTAR NEWS AGENCY reported.

Anti-government groups, in the meantime, continued to clash in different parts of the country. According to BAKHTAR, on Saturday a truckload of men from the Islamic Revolutionary Movement of Afghanistan, in the Alishang district of Laghman Province, hit a mine planted by members of the Islamic Party of Afghanistan. Three field commanders were killed and several rank-and-file rebels were wounded.

x x x

Abu Dhabi September 18 TASS—The United States will continue aiding the Afghan rebels as long as they intend to continue fighting, special U.S. president envoy Peter Tomsen told the newspaper KHALEEJ TIMES. He said that they were now receiving weapons in sufficient number and quality to continue their war.

Tomsen also supported a larger "interim Mujahidin government".

Afghan Foreign Minister Makes Stopover Visit

LD1709105189 Moscow TASS in English 1045 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 17 TASS—'Abdul Wakil, Afghan foreign minister, made a stopover in Moscow on September 16-17 on his way from Kabul to New York for the 44th session of the U.N. General Assembly.

At the airport Wakil was met and seen off by Yuliy Vorontsov, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR.

Lebanese Peace Plan Welcomed With Satisfaction

LD1609144889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1403 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 16 Sep (TASS)—The Soviet Union has received with profound satisfaction and expresses sincere wishes for the success of the resumed peace mission by the Arab League Committee of Three on Lebanon in accordance with the mandate of the pan-Arab conference in Casablanca, says a statement by a USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman, which was made public here today.

The international community is unanimous in its conviction that the armed struggle in Lebanon must be stopped as soon as possible in order for the country to be reborn as a sovereign, unified, and territorial integral Arab state. It is essential that all Lebanese, regardless of their religious beliefs and political views, heed the latest appeal by the committee, and by their constructive attitude assist it in resolving the primary task—that of establishing a lasting cease-fire with a simultaneous barrier to weapon deliveries. It is only in such conditions that a dialogue between Lebanese to restore national concord on the basis of a balance of interests will arise and become productive, the statement notes.

The plan for specific actions submitted by the committee of three provides a real chance to extricate Lebanon from the state of internecine strife in which it has been for many years. This chance must not be missed, for the price which all Lebanese would otherwise have to pay is too great.

The Soviet Union also calls upon all parties involved in Lebanese affairs to provide maximum assistance to the committee's mission and to display a genuine readiness to promote the attainment of a political settlement to the crisis in Lebanon. It is obvious that such a settlement can be based only on stable accords between all Lebanese political forces on the conditions for renewing state institutions.

The USSR will continue to make energetic efforts aimed at reducing the tense atmosphere in Lebanon and around it, and at creating favorable conditions for the activity of the committee of three, the Foreign Ministry spokesman stated.

Commentary Views Iranian-Saudi Relations

NC1609102989 Moscow in Persian to Iran 1500 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Yuriy Andreyev commentary]

[Text] The Majlis Foreign Affairs Committee has (?refuted) the allegations by its chairman, Raja'i-Khorasani, that Iran wants to revive its relations with Saudi Arabia.

An official statement issued by the Iranian Majlis says: This is Raja'i-Khorasani's personal view.

Our commentator, Yuriy Andreyev, writes:

This is not the first time during the recent Majlis session that Raja'i-Khorasani, chairman of the Majlis Foreign Affairs Committee, says he favors reestablishing relations with Saudi Arabia. On 3 September Raja'i-Khorasani said that Iran's relations with Riyadh should expand. He said that the Majlis Foreign Affairs Committee can use its goodwill to achieve the two countries' rapprochement.

This statement was not officially refuted at that time. What has changed now?

(?Naturally) the issue is the normalization of Iran's relations with Saudi Arabia, and competent officials may be studying this issue. Of course, time will be required for its solution. 'Ali Akbar Velayati's news conference proves this. The foreign minister announced in this news conference that the Islamic Republic is satisfied with some Arab countries efforts to improve Iran's relations with Saudi Arabia.

Tehran's new and flexible policy on the international scene have already had marked outcomes, and namely, the Iranian Government has fully normalized its relations with Kuwait and Abu Dhabi. Tehran sent ambassadors to these countries on Wednesday and announced its readiness to consolidate cooperation with other Persian Gulf Arab countries.

Meanwhile, the differences between Iran and Saudi Arabia are hindering continuation of talks. For example, the foreign ministers of six Arab members the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] stated in a joint communique recently that the GCC supports the establishment of good-neighborly relations with Iran. These countries, in the meantime, believe that the Tehran-Riyadh confrontation is the main obstacle to a solution to this problem.

Apparently the Iranian Government displayed its readiness for talks with the Saudi Arabian regime in early September. But either Riyadh did not notice Iran's reconciliatory gesture, or it did not want to react to it.

Probably the official statement on the remarks by Raja'i-Khorasani, chairman of the Majlis Foreign Affairs Committee, may be a reminder to Saudi Arabia that steps from both sides are necessary for the normalization of relations.

Meanwhile, we should not forget that Saudi Arabia is the major economic and political partner of the United States in the Islamic world, and this naturally makes the search for ways to resume constructive talks difficult.

At any rate, there is no doubt that both governments should seek a logical reconciliation and look at the future instead of living in the past.

Borisov Comments on Conference in Sudan

EA1209131889 Moscow International Service in Somali 1600 GMT 11 Sep 89

[From the "World Events Today" feature]

[Text] The situation in Sudan—The meeting of the committee making preparations for a peace conference to settle the problem of the southern Sudan opened in Khartoum on Saturday [9 September]. Vladimir Borisov comments:

The majority of the people of Sudan are Muslims, but in the south the non-Muslims form the majority. Followers of the Christian and other religions have lived there for centuries. When Ja'far Numayri, the former dictator, imposed Shariah law in 1983, war broke out in the south between the central government and the southerners. Now General al-Bashir, Sudan's new military leader, has declared that he will end the war, which has been going on for over 6 years.

The people who live in the south rightfully and justly oppose laws which contradict their religious beliefs. The government therefore, wisely decided to give the southerners a one third representation. However, the Sudanese People's Liberation Army led by John Garng, which is directly involved in the current war, is absent from the newly formed committee. John Garang had been invited to participate by the Sudanese foreign minister, but refused, saying he would not participate until the government meets all his preconditions.

The conditions include lifting the curfew imposed in the capital, Khartoum, and the state of emergency imposed on the country, unbanning the operations of the trade union's political parties and the press, and last, but most important, removing shari'ah as the basis of the country's civil and criminal laws. As you see, these conditions are not easy, but they are reasonable.

Another point to be considered is that this newly formed committee has little power and exists only to advise the government on various ideas on peace. The Sudanese Government representative on the committee is Ismail

al-Bili, the minister of justice. Last Wednesday [6 September] he called on the courts to observe the Shari'ah-based laws strictly.

Unexpected support for John Garang's ideas on the current situation in Khartoum came from Ja'far Numayri, the former dictator, who, speaking in Cairo, warned the new Sudanese Government against perpetuating its ban on political forces and against handing key posts in the country to those who support the full implementation of shariah. Our commentator says the former dictator is fully aware of the consequences of policies based on force alone.

But whatever the situation, an agency has been established in Sudan responsible for preparing agreements designed to bring about a peaceful settlement of the war in the south. Perhaps the powers and membership of this committee will change with time. The most important point is to achieve peace through dialogue and to implement that peace.

Envoy Polyakov on Mideast Settlement Issues

PM1509101389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Interview with Ambassador V.P. Polyakov, member of the USSR Foreign Ministry Collegium, by unnamed IZVESTIYA correspondent: "Strong-Arm Methods Are Futile"—date, place not specified]

[Text] [Correspondent] For decades the Near East has been one of the worst trouble spots in the world and a dangerous seat of tension. The periodic outbreaks of instability in this region and upsurges of confrontation and extremism confirm a truth which is evident to all—that there is no alternative to a political solution of the region's problems. Unfortunately, however, no real shift in the settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict has yet been seen. What is your assessment of the present situation in the region and what can be done to develop the peace process?

[Polyakov] Indeed, the root of the question is the need to find an answer to the Near East equation by political means. The military path has not only not led to peace in the Near East but has also promoted the accumulation of new factors complicating movement toward peace and stability in the region. Nor is it a secret that the Arab-Israeli conflict, the most involved and explosive of regional conflicts, is now acquiring an especially alarming character in view of the headlong arms race into which the Near East has been drawn. The stockpiling of mass destruction weapons there jeopardizes the very existence of its states and peoples and poses a danger to world peace. In brief, the universal law of the nuclear age—that people either live together or die together—is beginning to operate in this region.

However, the fact is that some people in the Near East are still trying to rely on strong-arm methods and categorically impose their schemes for the solution of the existing problems. This is the root of the continuing bloodshed and the flouting of basic human rights in the Near East.

We believe that methods of pressure and diktat are futile. The true guarantee of security is ensured not by the control of forcibly seized territories several tens of kilometers wide or by leadership of the arms race but by eliminating the primal causes of the conflict and finding a balance of interests among all the sides involved. Therefore we emphasize active diplomacy and the affirmation of the postulates of the new political thinking in regional relations. For the purpose of turning the region away from confrontation and instability toward dialogue and security, the Soviet Union put forward an integrated concept for improving the situation in the Near East which was set out in condensed form in E.A. Shevardnadze's speech in Cairo last February. The speech defined our view of the ways and methods of resolving conflict situations in the Near East and the parameters of the peaceful reorganization of the region on the basis of disarmament, the affirmation of good-neighborliness, and the development of cooperation.

The new approaches are gaining ground in the Near East. At a session of the Palestine National Council, the PLO—the Palestinian people's political vanguard—adopted a constructive and realistic platform recognizing the right of the State of Israel to a secure existence, declaring a readiness for talks with it within the framework of an international conference, and confirming its repudiation of all forms of terrorism. We actively support this PLO stance, which received the approval of the Arab summit in Casablanca. It is meeting with ever-increasing understanding in the world community as a whole, too.

Unfortunately, there has not been an appropriate response from Tel Aviv. Israel's answer was to intensify the repression on the occupied territories and in the political sphere to put forward the Shamir plan, as it is called. In other words, the obstacle to a settlement is still Israel's policy. Its government's obstructionist line is being increasingly rejected in the world community. Further confirmation of that was provided by the interview with J. Perez de Cuellar in the Mexican newspaper EXCELSIOR recently. One can only agree with the UN secretary general's statement that Israel is not showing the political will for peace and that UN actions are running into Tel Aviv's refusal to use the existing mechanisms to achieve a settlement.

[Correspondent] I would like you to comment in more detail on the Israeli prime minister's plan. There are "gaps" in it, I believe.

[Polyakov] This plan, as is well known, talks mainly about elections on the occupied territories. This seems to be the core of the Shamir plan, but its outline isn't clearly visible. It has generated quite a few problems, some of which have yet to be answered. Clearly, this element of "mystery" is no coincidence. Not for nothing is there a

widespread opinion that the true aim of the "Israeli initiative" is to undermine the peaceful Palestinian uprising, the Intifadah, to remove the PLO from participation in the settlement, and to disregard the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. It is no surprise that the Shamir plan was, to put it mildly, received coolly in the Arab world although the Arabs and in particular the Palestinians do not reject the actual idea of "free and democratic elections."

We also think that the idea of elections contains rational elements and may prove useful. It must be organically built into the general process of preparing and convening an international conference and achieving an all-embracing settlement and just solution of the Palestinian problem on the basis of the realization of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. At the moment that is not happening, at the moment Israel is even refusing dialogue with the PLO, and thus there remain doubts about the sincerity of Israel's intentions and suspicions that its proposals pursue an aim other than the opening of a real peace process.

[Correspondent] What directions could the preparation for an international conference take?

[Polyakov] Preparatory work for the conference can and must have various forms and levels. Its main criteria must be flexibility and constructiveness in the approaches of all the sides.

We have already put forward a well-known package of proposals on the preparation of a conference. There is the active use of the peace-making potential of the Security Council and its five permanent members and the establishment of multilateral and bilateral dialogues among the sides directly involved. These proposals remain in force, and, in our view, the immediate establishment of consultations among the Security Council's permanent members on Near Eastern affairs would give a powerful impetus to the peace process.

We are ready to further develop dialogue on the Near East with the United States, bearing in mind the two great powers' special place in world affairs and the close character of their relations with certain Near East states. We have already built up a certain potential for cooperation and would like it to be constantly increased. Unfortunately, the lack of the necessary balance in the U.S. position and the U.S. orientation toward Israel take their toll here. This, of course, makes the search for points of contact more difficult.

It is felt that Western Europe, which has considerable interests in the region, has noticeably stepped up its attention to the Near East. Its role can be quite substantial, especially if it makes additional efforts and makes full use of its potential to promote the peace process.

To sum up, I would like to stress that various political forces could serve the cause of a Near East settlement. They must be united by a common understanding of the need to ensure a balance of interests, basic rights, free development and equal security of all the states and peoples of the region.

[Correspondent] Lebanon stands out from the series of conflicts in the Near East. What are the prospects for resolving the internal Lebanese conflict?

[Polyakov] The Lebanese wound continues to bleed. Despite efforts by various sides on many levels the conflict goes on. We have no doubt that a way out of the crisis can only be found on the basis of a cease-fire and the establishment of an intra-Lebanese dialogue as the sole rational path toward national accord.

In our view, the Arabs must play their proper role in resolving the Lebanese problem. They understand better than anyone else the intricacies of Lebanon's problems. Despite the difficulties that have emerged we are counting on the continuation of the activity of the committee of three on Lebanon created at the Arab conference in Casablanca. It goes without saying that the three will be able to achieve a positive result only if the Lebanese themselves cooperate constructively with them and if there is a strengthening of the consensus in the world in favor of the earliest possible political settlement in Lebanon. Nor should the question of ending Israel's occupation of Lebanese territory or its interference in Lebanese affairs be backburnered. Security Council Resolution 425 on the unconditional withdrawal of Israeli troops from southern Lebanon must be fulfilled.

East Europe

Ligachev Concludes GDR Visit, Returns to Moscow

Says Gorbachev To Visit GDR 7 Oct

LD1509154989 Moscow TASS in English 1522 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Berlin 15/9 TASS—The GDR news agency ADN reports: GDR and Soviet Union remain close allies, a visit established by Karl-Heinz Graefe

Berlin (ADN)—The 40-year-old friendship between the German Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union, their close cooperation in all fields of social life has stood the test of time and will also live up to the new tasks. This is what Yegor Ligachev, a member of the Soviet Communist Party Politburo and secretary of its Central Committee, found as he ended his four-day visit to the GDR on Friday, political observers hold.

Heading a Central Committee delegation the top-ranking Soviet politician had a broad exchange of experience with representatives of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED), the leading GDR party. He announced that Communist Party General Secretary and Supreme Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev will attend festivities on the 40th anniversary of the GDR (October 7).

The news was greeted in the GDR with joy and satisfaction. After all, GDR-Soviet relations—a recent SED Central Committee meeting assessed—deserve to be called unprecedented in their intense and all-embracing nature. They undoubtedly derived major impetus from last year's meeting between Gorbachev and GDR party and state leader Erich Honecker who adopted new steps to intertwine the national economies and scientific potentials of the GDR and the USSR in the 1991-95 period and up to the year 2000.

During his visit which took place at a time of an FRG-engineered campaign to isolate the GDR Ligachev reaffirmed this Soviet stance.

Both sides agreed that they will continue exchanging experience of socialist construction. Also in the future "the GDR's further advance along the socialist road shall be linked to the further consolidation of GDR-Soviet relations," Ligachev said.

The two countries would not rest content with the level achieved and relations with the GDR "our true friend and tested ally" would develop even more intensively, Ligachev said in a remark intended at those Western quarters which would love to sow dissent between the Soviet Union and the GDR. The Soviet Union was resolved to strictly stand by its friendship treaty with the GDR, he added.

Ends Talks With Officials

LD1509165489 Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Berlin September 15 TASS—Yegor Ligachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee, concluded his working visit to the GDR.

During the visit he had conversations with party officials, heads of agricultural production cooperatives, of enterprises of the food industry and trading enterprises.

Both sides noted with satisfaction the fundamental closeness of the agrarian policy conducted by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the decisions of the March plenum of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee.

Many useful undertakings that originated in the Soviet Union, but were not implemented for some or other reasons, have been implemented in the GDR and bring a tangible economic effect.

The sides unanimously emphasised that long-term cooperation between the GDR and the Soviet Union in the area of mechanisation of agricultural work, in agricultural machine-building and agro-chemistry yields positive results for both countries.

Ligachev and other members of the delegation left for Moscow today.

ADN Cited on Satisfaction With Visit

LD1509185189 Moscow TASS in English 1806 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Berlin 15/9/ TASS—The GDR news agency ADN reports: Mutual satisfaction at visit by Soviet top official

Berlin (ADN)—Great satisfaction at the course and the results of a GDR visit by a delegation of the Soviet Communist Party has been expressed by the head of the delegation, Political Bureau member Yegor Ligachev, and Werner Krolikowski, a Political Bureau member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED).

Krolikowski who gave a luncheon here on Friday at the end of Ligachev's four day-visit, said it had again reaffirmed the firm and unshakable alliance between the two parties and peoples.

The delegation left for home in the afternoon.

In the morning, Ligachev laid wreaths at his brother's grave at a Soviet cemetery in Weimar-Belvedere, honouring in this way all Soviet soldiers who gave their lives for Germany's liberation from the fascist yoke.

Moscow TV on Ligachev's Visit

LD1509202189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Announcer] The working visit of Comrade Ligachev to the GDR has ended.

[Correspondent V. Mostovoy] The Werner Lambert cooperative which is located in the east of the republic in the Frankfurt-Oder area is part of the Neuzell inter-farm cooperative amalgamation, along with five other farms. Comrade Ligachev acquainted himself in detail with the working and living conditions of the village people. [Video shows Ligachev talking to local people in the fields]

After the tour of the production sectors, the outcome of the conversation was summed up jointly. [Video shows Ligachev and other officials in a conference room full of people]

Comrade Ligachev met at the building of the GDR Council of Ministers with Schuerer, candidate member of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the State Planning Commission of the republic. The prospects for cooperation in the sphere of agricultural machine-building and the supply of foodstuffs to the population were discussed. [Video of Council of Ministers building, Ligachev meeting Schuerer, Ligachev waving his arms in animated manner]

The same day there was a conversation at the SED Central Committee between Comrade Ligachev and Mittag, Krolikowski, Dohlus, and Jaruwinsky, politburo

members and secretaries of the SED Central Committee, and also with Schuerer, candidate member of the Politburo. Attention centerd on matters pertaining to deepening of relations between our countries. The sides also discussed the problems of coordination of the actions of the fraternal parties on the international arena, and exchanged information about the domestic political situation. [Video shows the meeting]

Ligachev Comments on GDR-USSR Ties

LD1509205689 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast; Yegor Ligachev interview with correspondent V.I. Mostovy in the GDR; date not specified—recorded]

[Text] [Mostovy] Yegor Kuzmich, your visit to the GDR is ending. How do you assess what you have seen here? What are the main results of the meetings and conversations that have taken place in these past days? [Video shows Ligachev and Mostovy seated in armchairs in a lounge]

[Ligachev] First of all, I would like to note that the visit of our delegation, of the CPSU delegation, happened at a time when an active, provocative campaign has been unleashed in the West, particularly in the FRG, against the GDR. The point is that chauvinistic-minded circles in the FRG are, figuratively speaking, dreaming of how they might swallow up the GDR. That is, in brief, they seek a review of the results of World War II and a fundamental change in the postwar arrangement in Europe. You know that a most responsible TASS statement was made on this account. And it should be said that it has been received here with great attention and approval.

Generally, I would like to note that those good wishes to the working people of the GDR that we conveyed on behalf of Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev have been received—I would say without any exaggeration—with great gladness and gratitude. And the same applies for the TASS statement on so responsible an issue. I would add the following to this, too: Those who are encroaching on the sovereignty and independence of the GDR should bear well in mind that the GDR is our loyal ally, is our loyal friend, and there should be no reservations about this. We have a treaty about friendship and mutual assistance, and we declare once again adherence to this important political document. This is the first thing.

The second thing. Our delegation has studied in the GDR—and, incidentally, studied somewhat earlier in the CSSR—questions connected with the realization of agrarian policy, questions connected with the social rearrangement of the countryside. I must note with great satisfaction that we have seen time and again, both in the GDR and in the Czechoslovakia, that it is possible to resolve, on the roads of socialist development, fundamental questions relating to social and economic rearrangement of the countryside and to supply one's people fully both with a good quality and with a broad range of foodstuffs.

Finally, the last point. Vyacheslav Ivanovich, I have only just returned from the troop cemetery in the city of Weimar. Our soldiers are buried at that cemetery, those who went through the entire Fatherland war. The German friends assisted me in finding, at last, the grave of my elder brother. In effect, I have met with him after 40 years. And standing there at the graves of our soldiers together with one's comrades and with the German friends, I think that all of us thought about how much we must yet do for our homeland to prosper, to march forward, to be still more mighty and abundant, and to strengthen the cause of peace by all possible means.

Results of Ligachev Visit Noted

PM1809100589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian Second Edition 16 Sep 89 p 4

[TASS report: "Making Use of Friends' Experience"]

[Text]The working visit of YE.K. Ligachev, Politbureau member and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to the GDR has ended.

During the visit, there were conversations with the party aktiv and with the leaders of agricultural production cooperatives and of food industry and trade enterprises, and there were numerous meetings with the rural workers of the republic. Many useful and interesting things were uncovered in these comradely contacts by the delegation members—YU.A. Manayenkov, first secretary of the Lipetsk CPSU oblast committee and USSR people's deputy; A.I. Dubko, USSR people's deputy, member of the USSR Supreme Soviet committee on agrarian questions and food, and chairman of the agro-industrial "progress" collective farm and combine in Grodno oblast of the Belorussian Soviet Socialist Republic; and G.V. Kulik, chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic State Agro-Industrial Committee.

Impressive success has been achieved in the GDR in providing the population with foodstuffs. The main volume of the food output of the country is produced by major entities—agricultural production cooperatives that act on a basis of financial autonomy relations. A boost is given by the output of private farmsteads, orchards, and allotments. A peasant in the GDR is well equipped in technical terms, and cooperatives are closely linked with scientific establishments. The food industry and trade are well developed. The peasant lives no worse than the city dweller in terms of most indicators: he has the same wage and pension, and the same level of well-appointed housing and of supplies. Hence the lack of migration and the growth of the number of rural workers.

The plan in the GDR is the state order for the most important kinds of agrarian production, such as grain, oil-bearing crops, beef, and other deliveries. A science-based price formation system operates in the country. The USSR delegation members saw from specific examples that the agrarian sector of the GDR economy has been provided with highly favorable conditions.

The fundamental closeness of the agrarian policy that the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] is conducting to the decision of the March plenum of the CPSU Central Committee was noted with satisfaction on both sides in the conversations. Many useful undertakings that were born in the Soviet Union but did not find their logical conclusion in our country for one reason or another, have been realized successfully in the GDR and are having a palpable economic effect.

Questions pertaining to the further expansion of bilateral cooperation in the sphere of agricultural machine-building were discussed at the GDR state planning commission. It was noted that the outline plan for economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the GDR and the USSR for the period up to the year 2000, which was signed in 1989, is creating a reliable basis for this. coordination of national economic plans for 1991-1995 requires purposeful implementation of the tasks that have been set and the deepening of cooperation. The sides unanimously emphasized that long-term cooperation between the GDR and the Soviet Union in the sphere of mechanization of peasant labor, of agricultural machine- building, and of agricultural chemicals bears positive results for both countries. Good prerequisites exist for broadening specialization and for production cooperation between the combines of the GDR and the production associations of the USSR in the sphere of technology for storing foodstuffs and preparing complete sets of equipment for dairies and other food industry enterprises.

The CPSU Central Committee secretary expressed deep satisfaction in a GDR television interview at the achievements of the GDR working people in various spheres of life. He stressed that Soviet people have been and remain dependable friends of the citizens of the German socialist state, which is an inalienable link in the Warsaw Pact and is a loyal ally of the USSR.

Ye.K. Ligachev laid flowers in the city of Weimar at the monument to the Soviet servicemen who gave up their lives for the liberation of the German land from fascism. His elder brother is also buried at this servicemen's cemetery.

Today, YE.K. Ligachev and the other delegation members departed for Moscow. They were seen off at Schoenefeld airport in Berlin by W. Krolikowski, member of the politburo and secretary of the SED Central Committee, and by other officials. V.I. Kochemasov, USSR ambassador in the GDR, was also in the seeing-off party. On the same day Ye.K.Ligachev and delegation members returned to Moscow. Among those who met them was G. Koenig, GDR ambassador to the USSR.

Reportage on GDR Refugees, Hungarian Border Issue

Kondrachev Discusses Issues

LD1409150689 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1414 GMT 14 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 14 Sep (TASS)—TASS political observer Aleksandr Kondrachev writes:

It is truly a pity that on the road of hopeful transformations in Europe a triangle of tension has suddenly grown up between Berlin, Bonn, and Budapest. Nevertheless, the problem of GDR citizens in Hungary who developed a desire to leave for the FRG has turned out to be unexpected only for the international public. You can not say this about the FRG authorities.

In reality, how could it be unexpected when West German buses were lined up in Austria at Balaton, near the Hungarian border, at the height of the season; special trains were assembled; and West German officials immediately began handing out FRG passports to the turncoats. After the Hungarian government decided to give the green light to the fugitives—who numbered not in hundreds but in thousands—everything was prepared in the FRG to receive them.

It is appropriate to ask what were the calculations of those who, taking advantage of the weakening of the border regime in Hungary in May this year, deliberately prepared this action. If they amounted only to clouding the forthcoming 40th anniversary of the GDR, then this aim has to a certain extent been achieved. But if one talks of the long-term interests of the FRG and its relations with the GDR and the socialist countries as a whole, then this action can bring nothing except harm.

It is naive to suppose that the 10-15,000 who have left will undermine the economic and political cohesion of the GDR. Of course, it will increase the republic's concerns in connection with the shortage of workers, but no more than for the FRG authorities to find work for them, with over 3 million unemployed in the country.

Undoubtedly it would have been possible to tackle the issue of GDR citizens in Hungary by different means. Moreover, there had already been the precedent with those persons who had been at the FRG's permanent mission in Berlin. After official assurances by the GDR authorities that no sanctions would be employed against them, and that their exit applications would be considered in the established way, they voluntarily left the territory of the mission and returned to their homes. This was precisely how at the start of this week the question of GDR citizens at the FRG Embassy in Prague was resolved. The GDR leadership was counting on a similar solution regarding its citizens in Hungary.

Their return home with publicly stated guarantees would scarcely have been less humane than the mass departure of those on vacation in summer clothes for the unknown, a country with other ways and customs, with a very acute unemployment problem, where broad sections of the population are not happy over the new immigrants.

It is difficult as yet to say how serious the consequences of this latest failure in the process of building a peaceful and secure Europe, where all countries would respect each other's interests, will be. However, one's attention is drawn to the fact that literally before one's eyes the triumphant tone of the statements from Bonn are being replaced by more restrained notes and a recognition of the practical and political problems that have arisen in connection with the reception of the refugees. In short, it is ever more obvious that none of the sides in the aforementioned triangle has reason to exult, since it is scarcely possible to make capital out of damaging the other side or ignoring its legitimate interests.

Falin on Possible 'Mass Demonstrations'

AU1509085789 Hamburg DIE WELT in German 15 Sep 89 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Moscow Fears Uprising in the GDR; 'Hardly Any Points in Common With SED'"]

[Text] The Soviet leadership is alarmed about events in the GDR. Moscow fears that, in view of the uncompromising course of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] and growing public dissatisfaction, there may be "mass demonstrations that will be difficult to control, next spring at the latest." This emerges from a confidential report by the Federal Intelligence Service (BND) that has been submitted to the FRG Government.

This BND report ("as of 16 August 1989") contains an assessment of the situation by Valentin Falin, head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee, made during talks in the Kremlin. At these talks Falin said that, in view of the GDR people's increasing desire to emigrate, Moscow noted with concern that the "SED leadership was facing the emigration, which is its own fault, basically with helplessness and perplexity." There is "alienation" between the party in Moscow and the SED; therefore, Moscow has "hardly any possibility" of influencing the SED leadership on this question, particularly since, according to Falin, "there are only a small number of common political points." In addition, East Berlin has reduced the usual number of consultations with Moscow. Efforts by the Soviet side to make the SED carry out small changes in the spirit of Moscow's reform signals have "met with harsh rejection."

According to the BND report, Falin said that it is "to be feared that the widespread dissatisfaction among the GDR people might lead to mass demonstrations that will be difficult to control within a relatively short period—next spring at the latest." On the other hand, Moscow does not foresee an opposition movement strong enough to bring about reforms in the GDR, the BND report continues, quoting Falin. The chances of this have also been lessened by the fact that a number of leading dissidents have meanwhile left the GDR.

At the talks in the Kremlin, Falin reportedly affirmed that "the Soviet Union would not interfere if the emigration of the GDR population continued on a greater scale and there was a further loss of authority by the GDR leadership as a result. The Soviet Union has said good-bye to the Brezhnev Doctrine."

The report "as of 16 August 1989" also quotes Falin's assessment that it is not to be expected that SED General Secretary Honecker will use the next SED Congress from 15 to 19 May 1990 as an occasion to resign citing reasons of health, for instance. "In talks with noted party functionaries, Honecker has affirmed his desire to run for office again." However, Falin added that Moscow had got the impression "that the SED party apparatus no longer stands fully behind Honecker. Internal statements by leading SED functionaries show a spreading feeling of resignation, which calls into question the meaning of the party's current role."

In its report about Falin's explosive statements, the BND added its own brief assessment of the situation, which reads as follows:

"The report supplements information available here, which proves Moscow's displeasure with the anti-reform course of the GDR leadership. The Soviet concern that the SED will continue to lose political legitimacy is confirmed by additional information from Soviet sources. However, Falin's assumption of a future increase in destabilizing developments within the GDR ('mass demonstrations') cannot be confirmed by the current state of information. Falin's statement is certainly an indication of how much the reform-oriented Soviet leadership feels the GDR's political course to be a challenge. Moscow's noninterference in the GDR's affairs, which was confirmed by Falin, is a result of the Soviet Union's political line toward its alliance partners propagated by Gorbachev. However, this does not rule out an attempt to exert influence at the purely political level."

Causes of Citizens' Exodus Pondered

PM1509160989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Own correspondent V. Lapskiy dispatch: "GDR: Why Are They Leaving?"]

[Text] Berlin—The exodus via Hungary of 13,000 citizens from the GDR to the FRG without appropriate documents has evoked a stormy reaction here. The opinion is being expressed that the majority of the mainly young people who have left the republic are victims of Western propaganda. Leading FRG television and radio networks whose programs are received virtually throughout the GDR are kindling a psychosis in pursuit of far from noble aims. Essentially, it is a

question of interference by certain West German circles in the internal affairs of the GDR.

However, people in Berlin do not confine themselves to stating this fact. A question must be asked about the causes of such gullibility and thoughtlessness on the part of those who have left, writes the Berlin youth newspaper JUNGE WELT. This question, in turn, leads to another question: What can we do to make our republic an even more attractive place for people to want to apply their creative talents here and so that it is regarded as a source of joy by every one of its citizens? What else can we do to turn it into a motherland for which people want to work, and from which no luxury store window-displays or dazzling tourist brochures can lure them? Everyone who feels at home in the GDR must take part in the debate triggered by the latest events, Ulrike Henning, the author of the article, writes further. For me, in any case, home is where I am needed, where I am given responsible tasks, and where I am trusted. In order to ensure this, a constant open polemic on all questions of key concern and tireless work are necessary. Is it worth discussing those who left, the author asks, and concludes that it is. Discussing this problem will help us to gain a better picture of ourselves and strengthen the majority.

Meanwhile, reports are coming in from West Germany noting that the resettlement there of thousands of GDR citizens is causing certain problems. They relate mainly to housing and employment.

Hungary Says Border Will Remain Open

PM1509181989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the rubric "TASS, REUTER Report": "Hungarian Reply"]

[Text] At the Hungarian Foreign Ministry the GDR ambassador to Budapest has been handed a reply from the Hungarian side defending its position on the "GDR refugee" problem and stressing the impossibility of abrogating the Hungarian decision on opening the border "since the reasons for its adoption have not been eliminated." The document also expresses a readiness to hold talks.

Conflict Remains Western Media's Focus

LD1509174589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1445 GMT 15 Sep 89

[From "The World Today" program presented by Igor Kudrin]

[Excerpt] The Western press is still focusing, unfortunately, on the conflict between the GDR and Hungary on the problem of the departure of over 12,000 GDR residents for the FRG via the Austro- Hungarian border. They all arrived in Hungary as tourists, but then, making use of the Hungarian Government's decision to open the border for them, they left for the West. The GDR has described this operation as interference in its internal affairs. It is no secret that officials in the FRG undertook and financed this step, in spite of the GDR's numerous proposals and initiatives aimed at solving the problem. The time chosen by the FRG authorities to carry out this operation was, of course, no coincidence. It was organized on the eve of the GDR's 40th anniversary. It is not by chance that this topic is in a commanding position in the FRG press and that television cameras are the first thing that the Germans from the GDR see when they turn up in Bavaria. [passage omitted]

GDR's Mittag Pledges No Return to Captalism

PM1809095789 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 16 Sep 89 Second Edition p 5

[Unattributed report: "'We Will Never Renounce Our Path'"]

[Text] The stronger socialism is, the more lasting is peace. Nothing and no one can induce us to renounce this path, there will never be a return to capitalism, G. Mittag, member of the Politbureau and secretary of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee, declared when addressing a conference of Berlin production pace-setters.

The speaker described the GDR as the biggest gain of the German workers movement. Nothing and no one can ever remove it from the world arena.

The political stability and the dynamic development of the economy of the GDR are driving certain circles in the FRG crazy, G. Mittag went on. Therefore they are launching crude attacks against the GDR.

Shoulder to shoulder with the Soviet Union, the other socialist countries, and all reasonable and realistic forces, the GDR is actively favoring detente, disarmament, and peaceful cooperation among peoples, the speaker stressed.

G. Mittag conveyed to those present cordial greetings from Erich Honecker and said: On Wednesday I was again able to talk to Erich Honecker. He is feeling well and we may assume that he will soon be fully back at work. The general secretary is firmly convinced that the Berlin working people will achieve new labor successes in the course of the preparations for the 12th SED Congress.

Honecker Cited on 'Respecting Realities'

PM1509121189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 6 Sep 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Article Published"]

[Text] Berlin, 5 Sep—The stable and dynamic path of the development of the first socialist state on German soil and everything it has created give grounds for asserting that it has stood a historic test. This is stated in an article by E. Honecker, general secretary of the Socialist Unity

Party of Germany [SED] Central Committee and chairman of the GDR State Council, devoted to the GDR's 40th anniversary and published today in the newspaper NEUES DEUTSCHLAND.

The article points out that since the beginning of the seventies the GDR has achieved considerable progress in building a developed socialist society for the good of the people. Of course, this process is not always even. No state in the world can manage without problems when making such profound changes to its economic structure. This applies to the GDR, too.

Touching on his meeting with M.S. Gorbachev in Moscow 28 June this year, E. Honecker points out that that meeting was a new landmark in the broadening and deepening of relations between the GDR and the Soviet Union.

"In my conversation with M.S. Gorbachev," the GDR leader points out, "I confirmed the unanimous support of the SED and the entire GDR people for the 27th CPSU Congress and 19th All-Union Party Conference policy of renewing Soviet society. With perestroyka the CPSU has begun an extremely difficult and complex but necessary process of decisive significance for strengthening socialism and ensuring peace throughout the world. My visit to Magnitogorsk on the occasion of that city's 60th anniversary also developed into a demonstration of friendship and the glorious traditions of our unshakable unity with the country of Lenin."

Going on to questions of the contemporary international situation, E. Honecker points out that under conditions of the shift away from confrontation toward cooperation it is necessary to respect the realities which have arisen as a result of World War II and postwar development.

Hungarian 'Reformist' at Moscow News Conference

PM1509161989 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by B. Rodionov: "Hungary: For Renewal, Against a Split"]

[Text] The Hungarian Socialist Workers Party [MSZMP] congress which opens 6 October in Budapest does not have a number, and this emphasizes its extraordinbary nature. These were MSZMP Central Committee Secretary Janos Barabas' opening words at a briefing for Moscow journalists at the USSR Foreign Ministry press center.

Hitherto MSZMP congresses have been counted from the first communist party congress. But the Social Democratic Party, which was one of the two begetters of the present combined party, is much older and has held many more congresses... But it is still possible that the upcoming forum will go down in history as the first congress of a new, socialist party.

To regain the people's confidence and actually become the decisive political force in the country the MSZMP must renounce "messianism" and the desire to make the people happy even against their wishes, noted J. Barabas, representative of MSZMP reformist circles, who was recently elected Central Committee secretary. To be frank, the MSZMP is not a modern party but a cumbersome conglomeration which was established in conditions of a one-party system. The declining party membership did not frighten our speaker, although he did regret the departure of many worthy people. But, in his view, the current three-quarters of a million members are too many for Hungary, with its 10-million population. In Western countries of a similar size that represents the numerical strength of all the parties put together.

In contrast to some other prominent MSZMP figures, J. Barabas is against an organizational split between "reformists" and "fundamentalists"; he believes that in the event of a split the MSZMP would be replaced not by two strong, viable parties but by five to seven weak ones. Vigorously backing the movement of radical reform groups within the party, despite all its excesses, the Central Committee secretary believes that his platform could be victorious at the upcoming congress and form an ideological and organizational base for uniting the majority of party members, aware that substantial changes are inevitable.

It is Barabas' profound belief that such a renewed party, which has resolutely renounced the "post-Stalin" bureaucratic model, could be the country's first party at the upcoming free elections, the leader of a future left-of-center coalition government. But, at the same time, the MSZMP solemnly declares that it will accept any election outcome, even the most unfavorable one as far as it is concerned, and would be prepared in that case to become the opposition.

Jiri Hajek Letter on 1968 'Invasion' Published

PM1509165789 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 6

[Letter by former Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Hajek in roundup of readers' letters in response to interview with participants in the events of August 1968 carried in IZVESTIYA No 232: "It Happened in Prague"]

[Text] Prague—I would like to express gratitude to IZVESTIYA not just for myself but on behalf of many of my comrades for the conversation with Private First Class V. Nefedov, which clearly showed that honest Soviet people were able, even when taking part under orders in the military invasion of Czechoslovakia, to retain a healthy sense of reality and a humane attitude to the people of the occupied country and respect for their worth. This former soldier found the courage to tell the truth about the tragic event which caused the most

profound alienation between the peoples of our countries in all the centuries of their friendly relations.

I feel bound to dwell upon the following words of K. Mazurov: "The clear hint from the CSSR foreign minister that Czechoslovakia might leave the Warsaw Pact came as a complete surprise to us." You might get the impression from the context that this "hint" was one of the crucial arguments in launching the largest military operation in Europe since World War II. I was Czechoslovak foreign minister at the time. And in that capacity I conducted a policy determined by the Czechoslovak Communist Party [CPCZ] Action Program and the government program. Their key feature was unshakable loyalty to the principles and obligations of the allied treaties between Czechoslovakia and the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact states.

In pursuing this policy I considered it my duty to demonstrate that the democractic revival of socialism in our country, which was conducted in accordance with the CPCZ line and enjoyed the support of the majority of the population, not only did not weaken our loyalty as an ally but, on the contrary, made us the most active ally in the struggle to secure peace and cooperation, particularly in Europe. I cannot find a single word in all the texts of my speeches and statements or in the press of the time which even remotely contains a "hint" of withdrawal from the Warsaw Pact.

It was not our foreign policy or the international situation which caused the troops of five states to invade Czechoslovakia. The aim of the invasion was to wreck the reforms, which in their conception and individual features recall in many respects what is now being being carried out in your country as perestroyka. You are right when you say that the assessment of the events of 1968 should be the business of the Czechoslovak people and their specialists. However, the heavy shadow of 21 August hangs over these events and makes it difficult in our country to assess what happened and tell the truth. It was not the Czechoslovak people who cast that shadow at that time. Only those whose predecessors cast the shadow then can illuminate the events with the truth. Soldier Nefedov, and it is to your credit, showed that further steps are possible and necessary.

My regards and wishes for the complete success of your restructuring.
Jiri Hajek

Political & Social

Further on Gorbachev's Meeting With Baltic Leaders

PM1809110589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Sep 89 Second Edition p 1-2

[Text] Moscow September 16—Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, met leaders of Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia at the CPSU Central Committee on September 13. The meeting was attended by party heads of the republics Algirdas-Mikolas Brazauskas, Yan Vagris and Vayno Vyalyas, presidents of the Presidiums of the Supreme Soviets of the republics Vitautas Astrauskas, Anatoliy Gorbunov and Arnold Ryuytel, prime ministers of the republics Vitautas Sakalauskas, Vilnis-Edvins Bresis and Indrek Toome.

The first secretaries of the party Central Committees briefed Mikhail Gorbachev on the situation in their republics, reaction to the CPSU Central Committee statement and set forth their attitude to solving the problems that have arisen. It was noted that the republics' economies develop normally, plans of production and realisation are fulfilled successfully.

However, the political situation remains complex. This causes legitimate concern, which found reflection in the statement of the CPSU Central Committee. Each Baltic republic has its peculiarities, which should be taken into account both when evaluating the alignment of political forces, their action programmes and when seeking optimum ways of advancing perestroyka, tackling inter-ethnic problems.

It was stated during the meeting that the Central Committees of the Communist Parties and party organisations do not always find true orientation points in the complex interlacing of contradictory feelings and a search for ways of development, in the conditions of sharply mounting political activity. A shortage of experience in organisational and ideological work in non-standard situations and the level of training also pose problems. Resolve is often found wanting in the political evaluations of openly extremist views, various proposals and specific steps in the field of legislation.

A dialogue from principled positions, openness in setting out the party line, integration of all healthy perestroyka forces, and clearity in defining tasks offer the only way of overcoming tension, removing misunderstandings in inter-ethnic relations. Such was the general conclusion made by the participants in the meeting.

The need was stressed to enhance the role of communist parties of the republics and their independence as well as to enable them, within the framework of the single CPSU programme and rules, to solve themselves some organisational, financial, personnel and other issues, to work out actions in conformity with specific peculiarities of the republics and their traditions.

A number of considerations were expressed on ways of developing the Soviet federation, strengthening sovereignty and widening the republics' economic independence. It was noted that these problems are the focus of the most acute debates. The working people of the Soviet Baltic republics, seeing their future as part of the Soviet Union, speak out in favour of giving a real political and economic content to the republics' sovereignty, effecting a speedy transition to economic cost-accounting. Therefore any delay and departmental approach to this matter are received negatively in the periphery.

Concern was voiced over the work of the mass media. It was stressed that press articles were not always geared to the creative goals of perestroika, and often led into the mire of old and fresh grudges, mutual claims and concerns, far removed from the true interests of Soviet people. A wish was expressed for the central mass media to display more flexibility and penetration into the essence of processes in the Baltic republics, their ambivalent nature, to cover events with more tact.

Addressing the meeting, Gorbachev said that the perestroyka process has entered the stage of real transformations and that work collectives, union republics, the party, all political and public institutions are involved in it.

Masses of the working people ever more actively discuss and tackle socio-economic and political tasks. It is increasingly realised in society that the work that has been started now determines the destiny of the country for decades ahead.

People began to get rid of illusions, of faith in the miraculous effects of simple and easy solutions and no longer expect that somebody from above will solve all their problems for them.

People everywhere come to realise that perestroyka is linked above all with creative, intensive and highly productive work, with discipline, order and effort to check mismanagement.

The specific feature and, perhaps, the most difficult aspect of the present period is that long-range tasks that are being tackled now and that will impart new quality to the country are coming up against glaring problems reflecting the current needs of people.

These are the shortage of goods and the state of the environment. There is a need to act vigorously, without losing one's bearing, without panicking and slackening initiative. The party has called forth processes which are now taking place in society and has real right to vigorous action.

There is a need for consolidation and reciprocal efforts, for a quest of reasonable compromise. But there are three provisions of fundamental importance from which, in the interests of the Soviet people and the Baltic peoples, we have no right to deviate.

First, all our problems can be tackled by joint effort, in the framework of the federation.

Second. Unity of our party. The party is the main guarantor of perestroyka and of the process of national revival. No one but the party can carry through this work in a planned and purposeful way.

Third. Equal rights of citizens of all nationalities.

All these are key components of the nationalities policy of the party, conditions for harmonising inter-ethnic relations.

Each republic, every region have thousands of economic, social, cultural, scientific and technological and sheer human ties with each other, with the whole country. We have become close-knit.

If we now allowed the situation to deteriorate to the point where these ties would start to break up, the republics and the whole country would be rolled back by decades, Gorbachev said. Take just one example: the Latvian plant RAF relies on hundreds of suppliers all over the country.

The draft platform of the Soviet Communist Party is progressive. It indicates the right direction in the main thing: practical solution to the entire complex of political and economic problems, introduction of cost-accounting and, in this way, the strengthening of economic self-reliance and responsibility, filling sovereignty with real contents.

We must forge ahead along this road persistently. We should not limit ourselves to generalised deliberations and declarations, but should concentrate on specific actions to prepare enterprises' adoption of full cost-accounting, concentrate on detailed calculation of taxes and other economic indices and on the working out of the entire system of complex horizontal ties between enterprises and of forms of organisation.

What is meant is not just subjugating enterprises to other agencies, not replacing one bureaucracy with another, but using the advantages of profound division of labour, removing departmental barriers and encourage initiative. It is necessary to ensure that the existing ties are not broken, to see the realities of integration and press for making it more effective.

Optimum combination of republican and all-union economic complexes should be found, the stages of the advance to economic independence in the framework of the integral all-union national economic complex should be determined.

There are objective difficulties as regards theory: the lack of scientific analysis of such an important problem as the problem of property. We are breaking a vast new ground here, M.S. Gorbachev said, laying the foundations of an economic policy which will make it possible to base regional and republican independence on new relations.

Giving the maximum of rights to republics, regional cost-accounting should not, however, upset advantages resulting from the federation, should not destroy the opportunities of conducting a statewide (federal) policy in the area of finance, crediting and money. It is important to replace administrative-command foundations of this policy with economic ones.

It is necessary to look together for the solution to complex problems, to form competent federal-republican working groups of specialists and scientists to analyse questions of legislative and methodological ensurance of cost-accounting relations at every level. Inter-republican division of labour will then get a second wind, will be rid of deformations so it will be possible to gain on rational specialisation and integration.

People link their feelings and hopes with cost-accounting and, consequently, greater initiative at enterprises. It is important to justify them. This is a matter of great policy, of putting to action the incentive mechanism at all levels, of using the whole of scientific, production and workforce potential. Any hindrance is impermissible here.

Speaking about the political and legal contents of the republics' sovereignty, Gorbachev stressed that this is a large and complex issue, with its own history. Both theory and practice should embrace all cause-and-effect links. Otherwise illusions will arise with regard to ways of developing the federation, based on nothing but emotions.

While setting forth the principles of perfecting the federation, the party platform takes into account all these circumstances. The whole of the federation's potential should be unfolded. Within its framework, the republics' sovereignty can receive the broadest possibilities in all areas.

Gorbachev paid great attention to ways of further democratizing party life, glasnost and perfecting the methods of party guidance. He said that perestroika can succeed only if the party ranks are united and all healthy forces of society are consolidated, in which the party should play an integrating role.

This is especially important, Mikhail Gorbachev said, today, when the country's economy is being revamped and drastic changes are taking place in different spheres of social and political life, and when the problems of national development and inter-ethnic relations have worsened. It would be a grave historical mistake to weaken such a powerful political organism as is the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. In this respect, the idea of federalism in building the party is pernicious for its unity.

At the same time, there is no doubt that the Communist parties in union republics shall be more independent in tackling urgent matters of their inner party life. Programmes of action, developed on a collective basis, could

play a major role in enhancing the authority of Communist parties in the Soviet Baltic republics. These programmes shall take account of both real requirements in solving the pressing problems of national development and contain clearly defined positions on the principled issues of strengthening the USSR as a federal socialist state and enhancing the consolidating role of the Soviet Communist Party in it.

A most important task, Mikhail Gorbachev said, is to strengthen cooperation of the Soviet republics by consistently implementing the constitutional principle of equality of nations and individuals, no matter where they live.

Any attempt to infringe on citizens' rights on the ethnic basis should be regarded as contradicting the principles of Soviet statehood and humanism.

Speaking about the important role of the mass media, Gorbachev said that it is necessary to bring the issue of work back to the newspaper pages, and write about working people, driving it home that the fruits of perestroika in the final end depend on a creative, intensive and motivated work of every individual. A measured approach, truthfulness, critical analysis and constructiveness, are required today from editorial boards of newspapers and magazines, radio and TV. They shall upgrade the personal role of a journalist and the responsibility of his civic stand.

Party committees shall have a system of daily contacts and work with journalists and managers in the mass media. It cannot be delegated to someone else—this is the responsibility of the party and state leadership.

Mikhail Gorbachev stressed that republics' leadership will continue to get support from and enjoy the confidence of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee in those of their actions which are consonant with perestroyka and aspirations and needs of the working people in these republics and the entire country.

The meeting was attended by Politburo member and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Vadim Medvedev and alternate Politburo Member and Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Georgiy Razumovskiy.

Gerasimov Notes Concern On Ethnic Issue at Briefing

LD1509132989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1233 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, 15 Sep (TASS)—On 13 September Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev met in Moscow with the party and state leadership of Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia (Soviet Baltic republics), Gennadiy Gerasimov, chief of the USSR Foreign Ministry information administration, announced at a briefing here today. The first secretaries of the Central Committees of the Communist Parties, the chairmen of the Supreme Soviet presidiums, and the chairmen of the Councils of Ministers of the three republics participated in the meeting.

In this context, the USSR Foreign Ministry representative stressed the positions of principle from which the Soviet leadership proceeds in the discussion on the ethnic issue.

"First of all," he said, "it is necessary to conduct a policy of preserving the Soviet federation and of renewing it by providing real sovereignty for the Union republics."

"Second, the party is categorically opposed to the division of the CPSU, including division on an ethnic basis."

"Third, we are in favor of political, economic, social, and cultural equality of rights of Soviet people everywhere in our country. Any encroachment on the legal rights of USSR citizens is unacceptable to the Soviet leadership," Gennadiy Gerasimov stressed.

Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Convenes 16 Sep

LD1809110189 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0104 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] An extraordinary session of the Azerbaijan SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet started work yesterday. Comrade Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party and other party and government leaders of the republic, and members of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium and the government of the republic took their places. Akhad Karimov, deputy chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet opened the session. The agenda and procedure of the session were established. The agenda is as follows:

1. A report by the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers on the implementation of socioeconomic plans for raising the living standards of the republic's population;

2. On the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast of the Azerbaijan SSR;

3. On draft legislative acts of the Azerbaijan SSR, on the sovereignty of the Azerbaijan SSR, citizenship of the Azerbaijan SSR, and on adopting the principles of economic independence and self-management;

4. And on confirmation of the decrees of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet presidium.

Representatives of the Azerbaijan [word indistinct] are taking part at the session.

Deputy Ayaz Mutalibov, chairman of the Azerbaijan Council of Ministers, delivered a report which was then discussed. The deputies adopted a decision on the question discussed.

The deputies then began to discuss the second question on the agenda. Naim Fataliyev, deputy chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium reported on

the situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast. There were discussions on with this question.

The session will continue its work today. The extraordinary session of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet is being relayed on the republic's television and the "Araz" program of the republic's radio.

Further on Azerbaijan Session

NC1609141589 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0340 GMT 16 Sep 89

[From the republican press review]

[Text] The restructuring process and the opportunities for making radical changes in all areas of life have created a genuine opportunity for resolving the economic, social, and moral problems that have developed in the republic. Detailed social programs have been drawn up and are being implemented. Preparations are being made to adopt the principles of economic management and self-financing in Azerbaijan's economy. The republic has a significant opportunity to accelerate the pace of social, economic, and cultural development. Regrettably, however, these opportunities have not been seized. The incidents in and around the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO] have become a serious obstacle to restructuring. The steadfast forces and movements must unite to resolve these problems.

All this was discussed during the extraordinary 10th session of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supeme Soviet, which convened on 15 September.

Press reports note that the session was opened by Ayaz Kerimov, deputy chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet and its agenda and work schedule were approved. Deputy Ayaz Mutalibov, chairman of the Azerbaijan SSR Council of Ministers, read a report on the progress in implementing the social and economic plans designed to raise the standard of living in the republic. Mutalibov summed up the debate on the report.

The meeting adopted a decision on the Council of Ministers' report on progress in implementing the plans.

The session also heard a report from Naim Fataliyev, deputy chairman of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet Presidium, on the situation in the NKAO, which was followed by speeches. Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee and USSR people's deputy, also addressed the session.

The deputies adopted a decision on the situation in the NKAO.

The meeting approved the decision adopted by the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet on changes and additions to Article 70 of the Azerbaijan SSR's Constitution and on the (?draft laws on adopting) the principles of economic independence, economic management, and self-financing in the Azerbaijan SSR.

The session is continuing. Deputy Ayaz Mutalibov's report on the first item on the agenda and deputies' speeches during the debate on the report were published in today's newspapers.

Mutalibov Delivers Report

LD1509215789 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Georgiy Zubkov report from Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet session in Baku; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Summary] An extraordinary session of the Azerbaijan SSR Supreme Soviet opened in Baku today. "The session has been received in Azerbaijan with hope, people expressing especial interest in it. At the time of its opening, Baku residents gathered in front of the building of the Supreme Soviet Presidium where the legislative debates are taking place.

"What are the reasons for convening the extraordinary session of the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet? There are many reasons: They include socioeconomic difficulties; the development of the republic's own concept of the transfer to financial autonomy and self-financing; deep concern with the situation in and around Nagorno-Karabakh; the problem of refugees; and consolidation of all those who speak in favor of perestroyka and a nationwide dialogue.

"Incidentally, among those who have been invited to the session and who have been given the floor, were representatives of the public of the republic, including of the Azerbaijan People's Front. And this informal organization has not yet been officially registered.

"Comrade Mutalibov delivered a report from the Council of Ministers of the republic on the course of the implementation of the socioeconomic plans aimed at raising living standards. He has been heading the Azerbaijani Government since recently. He has inherited a complex situation. The session noted that the command-bureaucratic administrative system, the diktat of union ministries and departments, and overreporting in agriculture have negatively affected the republican economy. This is why such a thorough conversation was held about principles of economic self-reliance. Today only 7 percent of the national economy is subordinated to the republic. In the opinion of the deputies, there are tangible reserves to raise the economy."

End to Direct Soviet Rule Demanded

AU1609145389 Paris AFP in English 0119 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, Sept 16 (AFP)—Azerbaijan's parliament challenged Moscow on Friday by demanding that

Moscow end direct rule over the disputed enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh, a spokesman for the nationalist Azeri Popular Front said.

The legislature voted a resolution demanding that the region return to Azerbaijan's control in a stormy special session that was suspended for two hours after a scuffle between officials and members of the nationalist Popular Front, Leila Younoussova [name as received] told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

Fifteen leaders of the front were allowed to take part in a parliamentary debate for the first time after Azeris staged a general strike last week demanding that parliament discuss a nationalist bill calling for economic independence and consider the future of the disputed autonomous region.

Mrs. Younoussova said the vote came after "very tough" negotiations on the sidelines.

The session was broadcast live on television in the southern republic, where the flames of nationalist passions have been fanned by neighbouring Armenia's demand for the Armenian-majority enclave to be brought under its control.

Moscow assumed direct control over Nagorno-Karabakh last January after bloody clashes between the mainly Christian Armenians and the Moslem Azeris. More than 12 people have been killed in ethnic violence over the dispute.

The local parliament also voted late Friday to publish bills on the republic's sovereignty and financial autonomy in the local press Sunday.

The parliament, overshadowed by the nationalists' threat to resume their strike, decided to reconvene the special session in 10 days.

The legislature was thrown into disorder when one of the Popular Front leaders, Nadjaf Nadjafov [name as received], rushed to the podium and seized the microphone, despite Azeri Communist Party leader Abdul-Rakhman Vezirov's attempts to shove him aside, urging him not to behave like a "hooligan".

The legislators then decided to suspend the debate for two hours, during which the front leaders and parlamentarians negotiated in private, leaving the television to broadcast a picture of the empty chamber.

The nationalists had been disappointed to find that the parliament was discussing "draft laws", rather than laws on economic independence and Nagorno-Karabakh, according to a front member who watched the broadcast.

But they agreed to compromise if the bills were published in the local press, the nationalist said.

The special Moscow-appointed administrator for Nagorno-Karabakh, Arkadiy Volskiy, said tension in the region had "never been higher", speaking in a television interview this week.

The interview was to have been shown on national television Friday, but the programme was cancelled. Excerpts had been broadcast Thursday.

Sovereignty Stressed

NC1709215789 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 1600 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] The documents [senedleri] of the extraordinary 10th session of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet were published in the press today.

Azerbaijan law stipulates the following on the changes and additions that will be made to Article 70 of the main law of the Azerbaijan SSR's Constitution: Azerbaijan's sovereignty extends throughout its territory, which is indivisible. The right to change Azerbaijan's borders belongs to the Azerbaijan SSR and can be realized through a decision by the Azerbaijan Supreme Soviet for a referendum in which all people in the republic would participate.

On the question of the Azerbaijan SSR's sovereignty, the draft constitutional law of the Azerbaijan SSR states that the right to resolve all political, economic, social, cultural, administrative, and territorial problems in the republic belongs to the Azerbaijan SSR. Any interference in the settlement of problems within the [word indistinct] jurisdiction of the Azerbaijan SSR must be viewed as an infringement of the republic's sovereignty.

The sovereignty of the Azerbaijan SSR extends throughout the republic, including the Nachichevan Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic and the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast. The laws of the Azerbaijan SSR and the laws of the Soviet Union are in force in the republic. Azerbaijan's sovereignty is protected by the USSR and the Azerbaijan SSR.

Resolution of NKAO Status Adopted

LD1709152989 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1444 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Baku, 17 Sep (TASS)—A whole package of draft laws has been put forward for discussion by the inhabitants of the republic at the extraordinary session of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic which is in progress here.

One of these bills is intended to guarantee the republic's sovereignty, which is expressed in the independent implementation by the republic of supreme legislative, executive, and judicial authority over its entire territory and in the interests of the entire population of many nationalities.

The draft law on the economic independence of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic and on its transition to financial autonomy and self-financing has been submitted for public consideration.

The deputies adopted a resolution on the problem of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast which establishes the constitutional status of the oblast within the composition of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic.

A discussion was held on the report by the government of the republic on progress in the implementation of socio-economic plans aimed at raising the standard of living of the population.

On 17 September a recess was announced at the session. The deputies will continue their work after the end of the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee on interethnic relations.

Nagorno-Karabakh Issue Viewed

LD1509144189 Moscow World Service in English 0310 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The parliament of Azerbaijan will meet on Friday and that of Armenia on Saturday to look into the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, an autonomous region populated mostly by Armenians but situated inside Azerbaijan. The population of Nagorno-Karabakh 18 months ago came out for secession from Azerbaijan and reunification with Armenia. However, both Azerbaijan and central authorities gave the demand a cold shoulder. A compromise began to be looked for but no option that would suit all has been found to date. Will the forthcoming sessions of the parliaments of the two republics concerned be able to come to terms? Ethnic relations expert, people's deputy of the USSR Galina Starovoytova says this is very unlikely. Moreover Galina believes that the march of events may take a course other than peaceful or constitutional because in their efforts to find a way out both sides proceed from their own interests alone.

This time there will be no basis for a dialogue. Azerbaijan has been making ever-greater demands because there are forces which are reluctant to recognize the very existence of the Nagorno-Karabakh problem at all. These forces believe that the whole affair has nothing but a handful of extremists behind it. Should these be arrested the problem will disappear. Meanwhile a special commission of the USSR Supreme Soviet has made a fact-finding trip to Nagorno- Karabakh to reach the conclusion that there is a problem, that is acute and that it has to be solved. This opinion was contained in the recently published Communist Party's nationalities policy platform which says that urgent action must be taken to settle the dispute over Nagorno-Karabakh. To my mind it is the recognition of the Karabakh problem at the high level that has caused tension in Azerbaijan to grow. Naturally this is going to be felt during the session of Azerbaijan's parliament. [passage omitted]

Galina Starovoytova believes that the introduction of presidential rule making Nagorno-Karabakh directly subordinate to the center is the most acceptable of all those options she has drafted together with her colleagues. Galina Starovoytova says this is going to be a compromise necessary at least at the first stage. Incidentally this is exactly what the population of Nagorno-Karabakh have been calling for. Yet Azerbaijan has rejected the proposal. Moreover, misinformation is used to fan nationalistic sentiment in Azerbaijan. Galina Starovoytova believes that the Azerbaijanis are offered a fake of Nagorno-Karabakh's history which is claimed to be the birthplace of Azerbaijanian people and so on and so forth. In reality both written and architectural monuments point to the reverse. These are historical documents that [indicate] Nagorno-Karabakh was made part of Azerbaijan forcibly by Stalin in Narimanov in 1921. Now, who stands to gain by sticking to falsehoods and inciting passions?

I can only guess who. On the one hand there must be forces on the national and local levels interested in destabilising the situation, probably in curtailing perestroyka and even in iron-hand rule, some kind of totalitarian regime. In my opinion there are such forces and the ethnic factors like ethnic instability make it very easy for them to rock the boat. On the other hand there are genuine ethnic ideas, commitments to ethnic identity and desire for ethnic revival. These are favorable factors and they have repeatedly consolidated the Azerbaijanis and many other peoples. But it is intolerable when they are used to the detriment of society, when people are reluctant to see the real state of affairs. I have many friends in Armenia and Azerbaijan and I pin my hopes on their commonsense. Although I have no illusions, the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh remains highly charged.

Azerbaijan Session To Resume After CPSU Plenum

LD1609191489 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1850 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Baku, 16 Sep (TASS)—An interval was declared this evening at the extraordinary session which is taking place here of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] following 2 days of work. It will be continued after the plenum of the CPSU Central Committee on interethnic relations.

The deputies adopted a decision on the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast (NKAO) setting down its constituional position as part of the Azerbaijan SSR. They addressed a petition to the USSR Supreme Soviet for it to examine the issue of the expediency of the further activity of the Special Administration Committee of the NKAO. Representatives of the People's Front of Azerbaijan and of other public organizations who had been invited to the session actively participated in discussing the NKAO situation.

The deputies also adopted a decision to put forward a number of important draft bills for discussion by the

inhabitants of the republic. In the next few days, these will be published in the republican press.

One of these legislative acts is intended to guarantee the sovereignty of the republic, which is expressed in the independent exercise by it of the supreme legislative, executive, and judicial authority over the entire territory in the interests of the whole population of many nationalities. According to this document, all questions—except those which it has voluntarily handed over to the jurisdiction of the USSR—fall within the competence of the republic.

Implementing state concern for the development and expansion by all possible means of the sphere within which the Azerbaijan language is used, the republic at the same time ensures the free use of the Russian language and of other languages which are used by the local population.

A draft bill on the economic independence of the Azerbaijan SSR and its transfer to financial autonomy and self-financing has also been handed over for consideration by the public.

Azerbaijan Official Discusses Interethnic Debates

LD1609200989 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 16 Sep 89

[G. Zubkov video report; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Late last night—actually it was already this morning—the extraordinary session of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] ended in Baku. Or, rather, it did not end, but it took a break. The deputies will continue their work after the CPSU Central Committee plenum on interethnic relations.

It is not suprising that the session lasted so long, for vitally important questions were being discussed: the current economic situation in the republic, the changeover to financial autonomy, new legislative acts dealing with the sovereignty of the Azerbaijan SSR, and the painful question of the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh and interethnic relations.

The whole session was broadcast on republican television and today impassioned discussions are going on in Baku and everywhere else in the republic on the work of the supreme legislative body of Azerbaijan. Opinions vary, but all are convinced that it is necessary to overcome the barrier of the situation when passions and emotions bring reason to its knees. It is necessary to look for ways to solve the painful problems.

Our conversation with academician Afrand Dashdamirov, chairman of the commission of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan SSR on interethnic relations, concerned the documents adopted at the session.

[Dashdamirov] You know, this was a collective search by the deputies along with representatives of the public and the nonformal movement, a collective search for what are the best means to achieve the sovereignty of the republic in the main areas—social, economic, and political. It must be said that against the background of the dramatic conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh and the consequences it has had, these questions are becoming particularly important for the republic. The position of the Supreme Soviet of the republic—we can be completely genuine and have every ground for saying this—is constructive. In general we start from the standpoint that you cannot pose a question whose solution could harm some side or other. This should be quite ruled out of our political practice. The questions posed should be solvable ones; questions should be solved in such a way that no side, no republic, no nationality should suffer from it. This is the opinion of the whole of the Azerbaijan people; it was very well expressed yesterday in the speeches by many deputies at the Supreme Soviet.

Azerbaijan's Vezirov Views Interethnic Plenum

LD1709201189 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 17 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Correspondent Georgiy Ivanovich Zubkov] Prior to leaving for Moscow for a CPSU Central Committee plenum on interethnic relations, Abdul-Rakhman Khalil ogly Vezirov granted an interview to Soviet television.

[Begin recording] [Vezirov] I am going to this plenum with great expectations. We expect a serious, in-depth discussion of the issues. Previously, there were thousands of problems between people. Somebody would clash with someone else, or argue with someone, and these were all everyday problems. But now they are all obligatorily interethnic problems; an obligatory qualification you understand. We would like these problems resolved. We categorically favor only the path of agreement, the quest for what unites us. This is why we have spoken out.

In my address to the 19th party conference, and at the April plenum, and recently at the conference of first secretaries, we proposed a large program. Georgiy Ivanovich, it could be called—well, you know, we gave it the perhaps rather grand title: A concept of interethnic reconciliation. There is no other way. There can be no other way between Communists, between two fraternal union republics. Things have gone very far; a great many troubles have accumulated. this certainly requires very great and very intensive work and, most importantly, good will—good will and a principled party position.

Attempts are being made to criticize the party. But, you know, our party organization is growing; more workers and members of the intelligentsia are joining us. People criticize, and we are the first critics.

The most interesting thing, Georgiy Ivanovich, if you examine what is being said at meetings by some nonparty members—I will show you documents of what was said exactly a year ago—I said that this is a tragedy and

that Azerbaijan—you have been to our markets and seen the abundance of fruit and vegetables—occupied 15th place in terms of the consumption of vegetables and fruit. Can that really be tolerated? Why are things like that? I think that according to this year's results, we are somewhere among the first three or five, because we applied such mechanisms which made it possible to ensure that all that wealth reached the tables of the people.

And not only that. They say—I was given the figures, with which I am pleased—that in over 7 months, we have given the people the opportunity to build as many individual homes in rural areas, which was not the case for 52 years. This speaks of an enormous need and of enormous opportunities opened up by restructuring. This is what our party has said. Our party proposed this. We must not give up either our leading or vanguard role in this enormous process or our revolutionary transformations.

We have set a course with the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic, the Georgian Soviet Socialist Republic, the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic, and with Dagestan; we concluded very interesting measures. I do not want to say that they are being fulfilled properly; there are reasons. Here I would particularly like to say that we especially want to ensure that the measures which we concluded with our Armenian friends are well fulfilled.

Recently in Moscow there was a meeting of the bureaus of the two central committees of the communist parties. There we dealt with one knot after another, particularly with the problem of the refugees, work with the intelligentsia, and work with the mass media. We have now even reached agreement in some of our bordering rayons on mixed commissions; they are solving problems together. [end recording]

NKAO Situation Worsens; Talks Unsuccessful

LD1609133289 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1252 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Stepanakert, Nagorno-Karabakh, 16 Sep (TASS)—Nagorno- Karabakh's only railroad station, Stepanakert, has been out of operation for 10 days: Trains on their way here are being held up 30 km from the town, at Agdam station in Azerbaijan. Because of the shortage of fuel in both the Armenian and the Azerbaijanian points of the oblast, agricultural work and harvesting has come to a halt, and the provision of gas for private cars has ceased. Even ambulances and vehicles of the accident services and the militia are being served only with minimum rations.

The situation is being made worse by the sharp cut-back in the number of flights of aircraft and helicopters resulting from the shortage of fuel, and from an organized blockade of the roads. Neither individual trucks nor convoys carrying foodstuffs and fuel, travelling with a military escort, are being allowed through neighboring rayons into Nagorno-Karabakh. Trucks travelling via NKAO [Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast] are also stopped. Functioning of nearly all the oblast's life support systems are affected, particularly the supply of foodstuffs to the population. Shop shelves are noticeably empty; there are long lines for bread and other foodstuffs.

The blockade is preventing the economy from renewing a normal labor rhythm after the strike. There is an acute shortage of construction materials and raw materials for industrial enterprises.

The deformation of interethnic relations has caused extremely negative consequences in all spheres of economic life. Grapes are dying in the vines in collective and state farms. This is the 5th day without concentrated fodder at large pig complexes, which have tens of thousands of animals. The slaughter of livestock outside the plan has begun. Internal troops have even had to guard the traditional sheep droving from high mountain pastures to the wintering grounds.

The negotiations being conducted with the leaderships of Azerbaijan and Armenia by the special administration committee for the NKAO on freeing the oblast have failed to yield positive results.

Strikes Loom as Tension Rises

PM1509111789 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Sep 89 Second Edition p8

[Own correspondent Z. Kadymbekov report: "Difficult Path Leading up to the Session"]

[Text] Baku, 14 Sep—Yet another rally involving thousands has been held in Baku's central square. The strike that was halted on Monday by the Azerbaijan People's Front after a difficult agreement had been reached with the republic's leadership seemed to be returning to the gates of plants, factories, stations, and railroad depots by Thursday. It was announced at the rally that the other side involved in the agreement had decided to reconsider a number of the demands made by the Azerbaijan People's Front. This step is the reason for the second round of long and exhausting negotiations which, because of differences, have threatened to lead to renewed strike action, possibly worse than before. The tension has been fueled by news of the worsening situation in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast (NKAO). In the last few days it has been impossible to get even food and medicines into the city of Shusha and a number of Azerbaijani villages which have been under blockade for a long time. The inhabitants, whose safety cannot even be ensured by military subunits, are in an extremely serious position.

While the rally was in progress in the square, talks were being held in the building of the republic's Communist Party Central Committee—talks which have been on the brink of collapse more than once. The two sides have discussed in detail every point and every provision of the protocol adopted, so it was announced in the square, on

the basis of the negotiation results. The extraordinary session of the Azerbaijan Soviet Socialist Republic (SSR) Supreme Soviet opening tomorrow will discuss a number of questions placed on the agenda by representatives of the Azerbaijan People's Front, members of whose board will also be taking part in the session under the terms of the protocol.

Azerbaijan Unemployment Problem To Be Eased

LD1609113889 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0651 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Baku, 16 Sep (TASS)—The solution of the problem of providing employment in Azerbaijan, where half the able-bodied population does not take part in social production, will be facilitated by new jobs which are being created in small towns of this Soviet republic in the Trans-Caucasus.

By the end of 1990, 150,000 such jobs will be created, said Ragim Guseynov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of Azerbaijan's State Planning Committee. [passage omitted]

Soviet Troops in Azerbaijan Interviewed

LD1609214989

[Editorial Report] Moscow Television Service in Russian at 1455 GMT on 16 September carries a 26-minute program entitled "The Wall" about the service of the men of the internal troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs [MVD]. The film which is presented without further titles by an unidentified narrator, is a compilation of clips showing internal troops in training; at rest in the open air when they are seen speaking to an interviewer; on duty and in their accommodations in Nagorno-Karabakh; and on duty in Baku. Other clips shown include archive footage of the June 1989, disturbances in Fergana; mass meetings in Baku; and scenes in the neighborhood of Stepanakert.

The film opens with shots of internal troops training in hand-to-hand combat as the narrator reads from a decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium of 28 July 1988, on regulations restricting the use of firearms in public places. These shots are followed by a clip showing a group of troops sitting in a clearing at rest. Individuals among them, identified by captions, give their views on service in the internal troops, their commitment to that service, and the gratitude they are sure they will earn from the people. There are more scenes of the troops in training, about which the narrator says: "The training of these young men befits the tasks they have to solve: freeing hostages, preventing aircraft hijackings, and disarming bandits and terrorists."

There follows a sequence of pictures captioned "Fergana 1989". The narrator says: "For so long we were taught that we are all brothers. Are brothers capable of doing this kind of thing? Are people indeed capable? Dreadful pictures. You want to turn away from them and hide. But we have no right to do so. This is a warning to us all. This is what has always happened and what will always happen, everywhere, when madness and sadism turn a crowd into a blood-thirsty monster, when the fact that one belongs to a particular nationality decides the question of life or death, when man forgets that he was born a man." The pictures show burning buildings, burned out vehicles, badly burned bodies.

The film returns to the group of troops in the clearing, some of them reflect upon their experiences and the horrors of Fergana. During further archive footage of events in Fergana the narrator says: "Today one can say with complete confidence that the contingent of internal troops which was deployed in the Fergana area in order to ensure the security of citizens fulfilled its complex task. It was precisely the arrival of the troops that led to the ending of the disturbances, that brought the pogroms, the killings and the violence to an end and made it possible to stabilize the situation." In the clearing troops recall their experiences in Fergana, including the fact that though the extremists used children as shields against the law enforcement bodies, no children suffered.

There follows a contribution by Major General Ye.A. Nechayev, identified from screen caption, who speaking to a correspondent says: "The recent events in Fergana. A lot has been written about them, a lot is being said about them, and I'll be frank, this has to be written and spoken about. This is the truth that at times we have hushed up. The people have to be told this truth. And here perhaps better than ever before we have seen the answer to the question: Do we need internal troops or not? These events have confirmed it. You know when hundreds of buildings are on fire, when incidents of vandalism are obvious, when there are bodies, when they are hacking and stabbing and going as far as disfiguring corpses, when the really vilest things one can observe are taking place, when the most rampant vandalism is indeed taking place—then surely the troops are needed? And indeed in the opinion of the inhabitants of Fergana Oblast it was stated beyond all question—and more than 700 meetings took place at enterprises—and the workers directly, both in writing and orally—we received thousands of letters, collective and individual ones, where it was said clearly that the internal troops were the only real force in that situation in Fergana, the young men I have been talking about, 18 and 19 years old,—at a cost of colossal efforts, let's be frank, both psychological and physical. For about 134 were wounded and seriously and they defended the constitutional right of the citizens of Fergana Oblast, the elementary right to live on that land, to work on that land, and finally simply to remain alive."

The film shows pictures of helicopters on the ground with the caption: Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast 1989. V.N. Safonov, identified by caption as Major General and commandant of the special region of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast, is seen speaking to a correspondent. Safonov says: "The situation in Nagorno-Karabakh is complex. The so-called war

of the roads goes on. Vehicles moving on their own without troop escorts come under attack. Obstructions are placed on the roads and spontaneous mobs are constantly forming with the aim of fanning hooligan activity both against the Armenian part of the population and against the Azerbaijani part. During a period of 24 hours we escorted something on the order of between 100-250 vehicles—in 24 hours—and these escort duties were done by the personnel of the troops." There is a clip showing a tented encampment of troops, some of whom are shown boarding an army truck; a control point close to a sign marking the city limits of Stepanakert; vehicles being checked; damaged bus which recently came under attack, interview with driver of the bus who says the internal troops deserve all the credit for getting them out alive.

The narrator continues: "Unfortunately our conversations were not so calm everywhere. In one Azerbaijani settlement they simply refused to talk to us. This is the Armenian Gadrut. The excited inhabitants surrounded our vehicle demanding that seven people who had been arrested be released. We asked about their attitude to the presence of internal troops in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast." Film shot from inside the vehicle shows crowds gathered around it. A woman in the crowd speaks: "There was recently an appeal by the Special Administration that we should give our reaction on whether it is necessary to keep troops here or not. Of course every Karabakh person can say that the troops are needed, but they are needed not in order to be here, but in population centers where the Armenians are. Let the young men stay on the border, on the border between the Azerbaijanis and the Armenians. These young men are like our own children. I'm a mother. These soldiers have mothers, too." Another woman in the crowd objects to the troops' presence because they are here to stop us striking and holding demonstrations.

There follow interviews with troops serving in Nagorno-Karabakh about their experiences and their sense of duty. There are clips of troops washing in a courtyard, hanging around. There is a further contribution by Major General Nechayev, who says: "I think, if I'm not mistaken it was issue No 33 of OGONEK that published a letter from a serviceman raising the question of whether or not it is right for a soldier in the internal troops—meaning a young soldier—to take the military oath in view of the fact that the internal troops have been removed from the armed forces. So what is my opinion? We have thought about this. We have talked about it and discussed it. We have done so in our collective and with the soldiers, the non-commissioned officers and officers, with our party and Communist Youth League organizations. And we have a single view that generally speaking perhaps we should think—and in fact we have put forward a proposal of this kind that some words should be replaced, in particular it says: Taking the oath, I join the ranks of the armed forces. Perhaps the words armed forces could be changed. That is our opinion, whether it is adopted or not, because everyone knows that now all decisions are taken by the Congress of People's Deputies and the deputies will give their view. But we have expressed our point of view. Perhaps it could be replaced with the words: Entering into military service..." But overall we consider that the text of the existing military oath reflects our activity and our purpose as soldiers carrying out their duty as soldiers of the internal troops."

There follow further clips showing soldiers in the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast doing their washing and other household chores, drawing water from tanker trucks and doing physical exercices and combat training. There are pictures of soldiers asleep in their living quarters and an interview with a man identified by a screen caption as Major I.V. Yakimenko. Yakimenko says: "In order for us to fulfill our normal tasks we should have normal living conditions and human conditions generally. With this issue things are very difficult, difficult in the sense that we have very cramped conditions. Domestic conditions here, like the supply of water, food preparation and amenities are virtually non-existent. For example, there is one tap on a tanker truck, for 400 men. It's not that the local authorities provide no help, they put up all kinds of obstacles."

Another officer, identified as Captain A.S. Subzhokov by screen caption, speaks of difficulties over local issues. He says: "How is the situation here going to be normalized and is it being normalized literally now during these days and months? It is very difficult to form a judgement on this. The reaction of the population varies. The majority of ordinary people favor our being here because they understand perfectly that if we were to leave it would be much more complicated for them to live here. That is my opinion and it is the opinion of the majority of servicemen who are serving here with me." Captain Subzhokov goes on to say that in his view the situation with interethnic relations has been fanned deliberately by people wishing to cause trouble.

The final section of the film consists of clips shot in Baku in 1989 showing a general overview of the city with the Caspian Sea behind it and shots of a mass meeting there. A helicopter is shown carrying out a patrol flight over residential districts. There are pictures of servicemen resting in temporary accommodations.

Earthquake Strikes Azerbaijan; No Casualties

LD1609093189 Moscow TASS in English 0924 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Baku September 16 TASS—An earthquake struck Soviet Azerbaijan at 6:05, Moscow time, today. [Saturday] According to the seismological service of the earthquake measuring 7 was in the Caspian Sea 90 kilometers northeast of Baku, the republic's capital. Force 5-6 tremors struck Baku and Neftyanie Kamny, an oil-mining township built on trestlework in the sea. Force 5 shocks were felt in the industrial city of Sumgait situated 30 kilometers from the republic's capital. Shock waves in the cities of Lenkoran, Divichi and Siazan situated along the Caspian coastline measured 3-4.

Old buildings were slightly damaged. There are no casualties.

Azerbaijan Bus Explosion Kills Five

LD1809063189 Moscow TASS in English 0623 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Baku September 18 TASS—An inter-city bus from Tbilisi to Baku exploded six hours into the journey on Saturday [16 September] killing five, including an infant, and injuring 27 passengers, among them women and children.

The injured passengers were taken to hospital and five of them are in a critical condition, PRAVDA reported.

The newspaper said that the explosion was caused by a time-bomb planted under a seat.

PRAVDA quotes the deputy interior minister of Azerbaijan (the bus exploded on Azerbaijani territory near the city of Evlakh) Akif Rafiev:

"By a lucky coincidence, the driver was unharmed in the explosion, and could stop the vehicle, preventing it falling into a deep ravine. It is still hard to say who planted the bomb. The investigation is being carried out by the KGB and Internal Ministry bodies."

Armenian Parliament Calls Special Session 16 Sep

AU1609153689 Paris AFP in English 1517 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, Sept 16 (AFP)—The Armenian parliament called a special session Saturday over Nagorno-Karabakh, the Armenian-majority enclave of Azerbaijan, which is disputed by nationalist movements in the two neighbouring Soviet republics, a reliable source said.

The session followed hard on the heels of a vote by the parliament of Azerbaijan Friday night calling for the dismissal of a special administrator named by Moscow in January for Nagorno-Karabakh.

The vote in Baku, Azerbaijan, was pushed through by the Popular Front, the Azeri nationalist movement which opposes demands by the Armenian majority in Nagorno-Karabakh that the enclave be merged with Armenia.

There was a chance that the Armenian parliamentary debate, which was broadcast live on television, would be adjourned until after Tuesday, according to an Armenian journalist.

A special Soviet Party Central Committee plenum opens in Moscow on Tuesday to discuss the nationalities problems that have led to ethnic unrest around the Soviet Union.

The journalist said a crowd of demonstrators was surrounding the building in downtown Yerevan, the Armenian capital, where the parliamentary session was being held.

A six-day strike led by the Azeri Popular Front this month to assert Azerbaijan sovereignty over Nagorno-Karabakh led to supply problems not only in the enclave but in neighboring Armenia as well.

Although the strike was lifted, a blockade has been maintained on communications with Armenia, preventing reconstruction work needed after the devastation of last December's earthquake in Armenia.

The Popular Front had threatened to resume the strike if the Azerbaijan parliament did not back dismissal of the Moscow administrator for Nagorno-Karabakh, Arkadiy Volskiy.

The stormy session, which was broadcast live on local television, lasted late into the night and finally ended in a resolution "proclaiming" the administrator's dismissal, Front spokesmen said.

Neither the local nor the central Moscow press reported the vote. An interview with Mr. Volskiy scheduled to be shown on television Friday night also never went on.

A preview broadcast Thursday showed him saying that the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh "had never been so tense".

Supreme Soviet Adopts Agenda

LD1609190189 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1817 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Yerevan, 16 Sep (TASS)—Today an extraordinary session of the Supreme Soviet of Armenia began its work here.

After thoroughly discussing the vital issues facing the republic, the deputies adopted an extensive agenda for the session. Among the points adopted were the exacerbation of the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, a report by the government on ways to overcome the crisis and on tasks to stabilize the situation in Armenia, the progress in fulfilling a number of previously adopted resolutions on assistance for the refugees, and a number of other points.

Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee, delivered information on the situation in the republic at the session. The deputies began a discussion of the issues on the agenda.

Blockade of Freight Trains Viewed

LD1609205689 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Unidentified correspondent's report from Yerevan; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Deputies of the supreme organ of state power in the republic gathered for this extraordinary session in an atmosphere that was very far from simple. Thousands of people followed the progress of their work on television and listened to every word reaching them from the

loudspeakers installed here, in the building where the hall of sessions is located. The situation in the region has become exacerbated to the limit in the recent period.

Just in the past 15 days of September, not a single freight train has arrived in the republic via the Azerbaijan railway. But normally more than 85 percent of freight comes to the republic, to Armenia, precisely via the Azerbaijan railway. The work of the road transport sector is paralyzed. The harvest is not being transported from the fields and orchards.

Also on the agenda, which the deputies approved following passionate debates, are measures for securing the safety of the Armenian population living in Azerbaijan, the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and the border regions of Armenia, and proposals for a political resolution to the problem of Nagorno-Karabakh on the basis of Lenin's principle of the right of national self-determination. Deputies are also hearing a report by the republican Council of Ministers in light of the socioeconomic development and stabilization of the situation in regions which suffered from the earthquake. A major speech was delivered at the session by Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenia Communist Party Central Committee. The extraordinary session of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet will continue its work tomorrow.

Disaster Relief Obstructed

NC1709135989 Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Excerpt] The freight, building materials, and machinery sent from foreign countries and the various regions of our country to the disaster area are encountering tremendous obstacles in moving along Azerbaijan railways. For 13 days now, no rail car has crossed into Armenia, where the production sector is threatened with collapse. The Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and the Armenian regions bordering Azerbaijan have been surrounded by the armed Azeri brigands. The reconstruction work in the disaster area has come to a standstill because of the shortage of supplies. The effects of the shortage of consumer goods, commodities, and fuel are already being felt in our republic. These were the main topics discussed during the extraordinary session of the 11th convocation of the Armenian Supreme Soviet. [passage omitted]

Deputy Blames Moscow for Blockade

NC1709142189 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1600 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Today's extraordinary session of the Armenian Supreme Soviet took place (?amid unauthorized meetings). [passage omitted] Thousands of people [word indistinct] who had surrounded the Supreme Soviet building. [passage omitted]

During the recess we asked Sos Sarkisyan, USSR people's deputy and USSR people's artist, for his views.

[Begin Sarkisyan recording] [passage omitted] I think that we are on the (?wrong) path. This session should not be examining the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast issue, our relations with Azerbaijan, or the blockade. Instead, the session should be formulating its position toward the central government. It is clear to me that if the central government in Moscow had so wished, the blockade would have ended within the first 2 hours. It is clear to me that this blockade and the exacerbation of this conflict are instigated by the central government. This is [word indistinct] a calculated thing. There is no point in appealing to Azerbaijan or anywhere else. (?This would be self-deceiving), because Moscow is responsible for this situation. The central government must tell us why [word indistinct] the situation, and how it is possible that a republic can remain blockaded for 13 or 14 days. [passage omitted] We face a critical situation. Moscow wants to bring us to our knees. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Deputies Address Agenda Items

NC1609082989 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1600 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Report on the Armenian Supreme Soviet 10th extraordinary session of the 11th convocation by (Maghr Danelyan) and (Hrayr Chamichian) from the Armenian Supreme Soviet—recorded]

[Text] [Correspondent] The Armenian Supreme Soviet deputies' [word indistinct] started here today. All of them are disturbed and worried, and a look at the agenda shows why. It includes topics about the republic's socioeconomic development, improvement of the tense situation in the region, the housing of the refugees, and the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet's appeal to the USSR Supreme Soviet on ensuring the security of the Armenian in Azerbaijan. These were the topics we discussed with deputies Henrikh Zakyan, brigade leader of the [word indistinct] machinery production, and Nazik Nersesyan, worker at the [name indistinct] pasta factory.

[Correspondent] Comrade Zakyan, which of the issues on the agenda are most important?

[Zakyan] The problem of Nagorno-Karabakh, which has been (?blockaded since 21) [word indistinct] is very important and should be solved. This is what all Armenians want.

[Correspondent] What are your expectations? What measures should the session take?

[Zakyan] The session should make a definite decision and present it to the central government so that the blockade will end.

[Correspondent] Will this decision be accepted?

[Zakyan] I hope that it will be accepted. If not, then I will not consider our session as successful.

[Correspondent] What is your opinion? Can the central government do something about it?

[Zakyan] No. I am waiting for us to adopt our decision. But, frankly speaking, I do not expect anything good from the central government. This is because we adopted a decision on (?15) [word indistinct] and the central government has not done anything yet. This is very unfortunate.

[Correspondent] The road in Lachini has been blocked for a long time. What do you think? Can't the army there open the road?

[Zakyan] The [word indistinct] army which crushed the German fascists and liberated all of Europe, now appears to be incapable of confronting some people. Some people are sitting along a 6-km area there, and it seems that in order to please them everyone else is condemned to starvation.

[Correspondent] What is your opinion on the blockade of Armenia?

[Zakyan] During the December disaster, the entire world extended a helping hand to Armenia and the Azerbaijanis went on central television and proposed their assistance and expressed their humanitarian feelings. Why do they not show these feelings today? They are blocking the railroad and they are not allowing assistance to reach the disaster areas. Winter is approaching. The people will be without (?homes). They are barbarously delaying the assistance that the world is sending to Armenia.

[Correspondent] As far as the unfortunate issues you referred to are concerned, do you hope that the session will make any progress in solving them?

[Zakyan] The session is meeting because the people demanded it. I hope that we will adopt just decisions and present decisive demands to the central government. We hope that at least this time the central government will respond with just decisions.

[Correspondent] Comrade Nersesyan, about which of the topics on the agenda do you feel strongly?

[Nersesyan] The [word indistinct] issue and another issue which was not published in the press, and it concerns the recognition of the authority of the (Manucharvi) deputy.

[Correspondent] Undoubtedly, there will be many issues to be discussed tomorrow, since the situation is critical. All of Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh are facing a blockade, and a difficult situation has been created in the capital and in the disaster area. In August alone, no consignment arrived in Kapan for 22 days. About 100 truckloads of food, construction material, machinery, and other equipment are standing on the Goris-Lachin road. The Noyemberyanskiy rayon residents are guarding the 70-km border with Azerbaijan day and night. The same situation prevails in other areas neighboring Azerbaijan. Can our Supreme Soviet session affect the central government with its decisions and solve this tense situation? The Armenian people have such hopes from the Supreme Soviet session tomorrow.

Deputies Express 'Grave Concern'

LD1709154189 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1445 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Yerevan, 17 Sep (ARMENPRESS-TASS)—On the agenda of the extraordinary session of the Armenian SSR Supreme Soviet, which opened on 16 September, were questions of ensuring the security of the Armenian people, of the exacerbation of the situation in the region, and of measures to eliminate the blockade of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast and the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic, and the report by the Council of Ministers of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic on overcoming the crisis situation, on the tasks of stabilizing the situation in the republic, and on the progress in fulfilling the resolutions adopted by the Communist Party of Armenia Central Committee and the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic Council of Ministers on the question of providing facilities for the refugees and on additional measures to intensify this work.

The speeches by deputies expressed grave concern in connection with the acute exacerbation of the situation in and around the republic. The work rhythm has been disrupted and almost half of the industrial enterprises are at a standstill. A grave situation has developed in the earthquake zone, where the restoration work is being disrupted.

16 Sep Proceedings Detailed

LD1809110689 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0300 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Excerpts] The 10th extraordinary session of the 11th convocation of the Armenian Supreme Soviet began its work at the Hall of Sessions of the Armenian Supreme Soviet yesterday morning. Armenian Supreme Soviet Chairman Torkom Tonoyan was in the chair. In his opening statement he asked the following to address the session: Valeriy Badamyants, chairman of the State Security Committee of the republic; Rubik Arutyunyan, minister of internal affairs; and [words indistinct]. [passage omitted]

The session heard a report by Comrade Assatryan, chairman of the Credentials Commission, on the results of the Supreme Soviet by-elections held last August in a number of okrugs where vacancies had occurred. The session accepted the credentials of the following deputies elected at these elections: Levon Ter-Petrosyan; Robert Kocharyan; Rafael Kazaryan [all members of the Karabakh Committee]; and [word indistinct] Chshmarityan.

The decision of the Supreme Soviet Presidium of the republic not to recognize the credentials of Arkadiy

Manucharov [chairman of the banned Krunk Association in Karabakh] was brought under deliberation. The following contributed explanations and interpretations in connection with this issue: Armen (Assatryan), minister of justice, and Gratch Voskanyan, chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium.

The following deputies addressed the session in connection with the report and the interpretations: [name indistinct], Razmik Tavoyan, (Grigor Tatevosyan), and Robert Kocharyan, representatives of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast, as well as Vladimir Kazaryan, the republican prosecutor, and others. They moved that the credentials of Arkadiy Manucharov be accepted and to apply to the USSR procurator general to set him free. The session approved, by a majority decision, the motions made. [passage omitted]

The deputies then approved the following agenda for the session by a majority decision:

1. On the tasks of ensuring the security of the Armenian population in the Azerbaijan Republic, in Nagorno-Karabakh, and the border areas of the Armenian republic, and the proposals to be submitted to the USSR Supreme Soviet.

2. On the measures to eliminate the exacerbation of the situation in the region and the lifting of the blockade on Armenia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

3. On the accountability report of the Armenian Council of Ministers about its activities [words indistinct].

4. On the fulfillment of the decisions of the Central Committee of the Armenian Communist Party and the Armenian Council of Ministers regarding the question of the resettlement of the refugees, and on additional measures to improve this work. [passage omitted]

Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Armeian Communist Party read a report on the first two items on the agenda. The following spoke in the debate on this report: Zori Balayan, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy; Grigor Assatryan, Armenian Supreme Soviet deputy; Aleksandr Petrosyan, representative of the Yerevan of the Transcaucasus railways, and Major General Mikhail [surname indistinct].

The 10th extraordinary session of the 11th convocation of the Armenian Supreme Soviet will resume its work today.

Supreme Soviet Adopts Documents on NKAO

LD1709211589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Report by V. Nazaryan in Yerevan; from the "Vremya" newcast]

[Text] This is the second day of work of the extraordinary session of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet. It is proceeding amid heated debates, sharp arguments, and discussions of acute matters. Today, the deputies adopted three documents directly linked to the situation. The first two are decisions on the exacerbation of the situation in the region and on measures for the immediate removal of the blockade of Armenia and of the Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast, and on proposals by the USSR Supreme Soviet to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh problem.

The deputies also adopted a statement to the USSR Supreme Soviet which says, in part: The path to peace and accord does not lie by way of diktat from a position of strength but by moves toward each other and the joint search for compromises.

Decisions Detailed

NC1809114589 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 1600 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Excerpts] Friends, as you already know from our broadcasts, the 10th extraordinary session of the 11th convocation of the Supreme Soviet of Soviet Armenia continued today in the hall of congresses of the republic's Supreme Soviet. The session, which was chaired by Miro Mstoyan, deputy chairman of the republic's Supreme Soviet, debated the speech of Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian Communist Party Central Committee. [passage omitted]

After the debate, the session passed a decision on safeguarding the security of Armenians in the Azerbaijan Republic, Nagorno-Karabakh Autonomous Oblast [NKAO], and on the borders of Soviet Armenia. An appeal was addressed to the USSR Supreme Soviet. A decision was passed concerning measures to resolve the tense situation in the region and to lift the blockade of Armenia and the NKAO. With this, the discussion of the first two points on the agenda concluded. The rest of the items on the agenda will be debated after a few days' recess.

Now a report by Manuel Tanielyan from the republic's Supreme Soviet.

[Begin recording] There are four items on the agenda, and debate over them showed that they are interconnected and that it is difficult to isolate one from the other. No building materials, sent from the various Soviet republics and many foreign countries, have arrived in the disaster zone. Consumer goods, fuel, and timber are not arriving. The republic and the NKAO are under a blockade. A whole subdivision of Soviet armed forces are deployed in this region, yet they are unable to open up the roads closed by (? the brigands). We repeat: The deputies and the people do not believe ostensible claims that the troops are unable to open the roads. [passage omitted] [end recording].

Arutyunyan Addresses Central Committee

NC1609072689 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0425 GMT 16 Sep 89

[From the review of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN]

[Text] On 14 September the Armenian CP [Communist Party] Central Committee meeting was attended by journalists of the republican press; the republican radio, television and ARMENPRES leaders; and correspondents from the central organ in the republic.

Comrade Suren Arutyunyan, first secretary of the Armenian CP Central Committee, spoke at the meeting about steps being taken by the republic's leadership to improve the (?difficult) situation and to end the economic blockade. Comrade Arutyunyan pointed out that the country's leadership shares our concern about the situation and is taking every possible step to end the crisis.

Comrade Arutyunyan continued: We have sent our proposals to the CPSU Central Committee and to the Soviet Government on normalizing the situation with the objective of the reinstituting the republic's economic activities and on the immediate (?supply) of fuel, construction material, and provisions. The blockade has had grave consequences. Construction organizations from all over the country that have been mobilized for reconstruction activities in the disaster areas have become idle.

During the meeting (?the role of the) central and republican press and of radio and television in clarifying the critical situation that exists in the republic was discussed.

The newspaper reports the meeting of the journalists and correspondents at the Armenian CP Central Committee.

Council of Ministers Official Visits Yerevan

NC1709165589 Yerevan Domestic Service in Armenian 0425 GMT 17 Sep 89

[From the review of KHORHRDAYIN HAYASTAN]

[Text] The paper reports that Belousov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the State Committee on Special Situations [Artakarg Iravichakneri Petakan Handznazhoghou] attached to the USSR Council of Ministers, held consultations in Yerevan on 15 September. The fuel supply to the republic and measures [words indistinct] were discussed. The paper has published an ARMENPRES report on the matter.

Armenia, California Company Sign Joint Agreement

NC1809113289 Yerevan International Service in Armenian 1530 GMT 17 Sep 89

[From the republican press review]

[Text] According to YEREKOYAN YEREVAN newspaper, the Armenian Civil Aviation Department and the Californian Intertours Corporation have signed an agreement to set up the Stork (Aragil) joint Soviet-American enterprise. This will be the first joint enterprise for the Soviet Union in the transportation service field. It will help solve primary problems by facilitating the ties between Armenians of Armenia and their relatives and friends living in the United States, establishing mutually advantageous relations between the Soviet Armenian enterprises and foreign companies, and, finally, developing the service sectors lacking in Armenia. Stork is headed by a board of directors made up of 6 people. Yuriy Mnatsakanov has been elected director.

Moldavian Party Bureau Urges 'Rational Compromise'

LD1509124389 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1148 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Kishinev, 15 Sep (TASS)—In a decision published here today, the Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Moldavia has described the situation in the republic as complex.

As has already been reported, strikes have been taking place at many industrial enterprises of Soviet Moldavia since the middle of August. Those taking part in them are in favor of repealing several articles of the law adopted by the republic's parliament on the role of languages. These articles, in the strikers' opinion, encroach on the rights of non-Moldavians who make up about 40 percent of the population.

The Bureau of the Communist Party Central Committee notes that the efforts of Communists to consolidate society and deepen perestroyka are coming up against serious obstacles which are not only slowing down the transformations which have begun, but are also placing them under real threat.

The Bureau of the Communist Party of Moldavia Central Committee condemned the "nationalist and chauvinist manifestations of an anti- Russian and anti-Moldavian nature", the actions of individual leaders of the autonomous movements and associations which urge people onto a path of anarchy and disorder, the proclamation of antisocialist slogans, and attempts to set up alternative power structures.

The Central Committee leadership condemned the strikes which, in the current aggravated situation, are causing tens of millions of rubles' worth of damage to the economy. The strikes are causing dissatisfaction among a significant proportion of the population and leading to further destabilization.

The party leadership of Moldavia has again called upon all inhabitants of the republic to start along the road of seeking a rational compromise and to display good sense. It has been decided that a plenum of the party's Central Committee will be held in September, and that it will discuss the tasks of party organizations in improving the situation in the republic.

Seeks To Stabilize Situation

LD1509142789 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1300 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Regarding the situation in Moldavia, the decision of the republic's Communist Party Central Committee Bureau, which was published today, is aimed at halting the strikes and at urgently stabilizing the Moldavian situation. It is noted that given the existing socioeconomic difficulties, the strike movement is worsening the destabilization of the national economy and the state of affairs in all spheres of public life.

Success in overcoming the difficulties depends above all on how well-considered the assessment of what is happening is, and on how realistic the efforts are to seek a mutually acceptable compromise which respects and takes account of different opinions.

The decision self-critically notes that the Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee Bureau's working style and methods are in need of substantial improvement. Together with the Supreme Soviet Presidium and the republic's Council of Ministers the Bureau has not always displayed consistency, true party principle, decisiveness in mobilizing healthy forces for consolidating the situation, or exactingness toward the Communists who head the republican party, soviet and state bodies, and public organizations.

The decision notes that extremist, nationalist, and chauvinist tendencies are giving rise to justified indignation from the working people of the Moldavia Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR]. The intention of individual leaders of informal associations not only to oppose the republic's leadership, but also to create parallel power structures, is becoming increasingly apparent. Anti-Soviet, anti-Russian, and anti-Moldavian statements are frequent.

The need for a thorough and exacting approach toward assessing the Moldavian Popular Front's activity arose long ago. There are people in it who have made a substantial contribution to the revival of the Moldavian language, the elimination of a number of blank spots in history, and the establishment of social justice. However, the decision notes, in declaring their adherence to perestroyka, individual representatives of the Popular Front put forward unacceptable demands which have the nature of an ultimatum, regarding various problems of the historical past and contemporary development of Moldavia. Emissaries from all kinds of popular fronts from other republics, particularly the Baltics, are involved in this campaign, and foreign information sources are being used.

The decision sharply criticizes the republican internationalist Yedinstvo [Unity] movement's leaders. Claiming the role of protectors of certain population groups' interests, they give verbal support to the CPSU policy of improving interethnic relations and eliminating the distortions which have accumulated. However, in their practical actions they do not display an aspiration to seek ways toward a rapprochement of viewpoints with existing realities taken into account.

The initiators of the creation of the so-called Union of Workers of Moldavia are voicing goals that are unconstructive and incomprehensible to many people. This may still further deepen the division of labor collectives along ethnic and class lines.

The surge of passions in the republic is not abating, since the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet session adopted the language laws. Some of the republic's population sees them as an infringement of their fundamental interests. In a number of Moldavian towns and rayons sessions of town and rayon soviets of people's deputies have made decisions to suspend the force of certain legislative acts as being out of line with the USSR Constitution. It has been deemed essential to convene a Moldavian Communist Party Central Committee plenum in the very near future and, on the basis of the provisions set out in the Bureau decision, to discuss the whole list of problems topical for the republic, and to map out measures for their implementation.

Moldavian Councils Suspend Language Law Article

LD1509163889 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Kishinev September 15 ATEM-TASS—Some of the plants and organisations in Rybnitsa and Komrat resumed work today while rail workers at Moldavia's largest locomotive shed in Bendery have been working for two days now. Since the beginning of this week work resumed at all enterprises in Kishinev.

However, many striking enterprises in Tiraspol and Bendery remain idle, while leaders of strike committees urge workers to suspend the strike.

The governing councils in Tiraspol, Bendery, Rybnitsa and Komrat decided at their sessions to suspend the action of article 70 (1) of the Moldavian Constitution and some other articles of a language law, recently passed by the republic's Supreme Soviet, as violating the USSR Constitution.

The deputies appealed to the USSR Supreme Soviet to pass a law on a single state language in the USSR at its second session. They also urged the strike committees and striking workers to suspend strikes until the party plenum on inter-ethnic relations and the session of the USSR Supreme Soviet are held.

Call for Strike Suspension

LD1509144889 Moscow TASS in English 1420 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Text] Kishinev September 15 TASS—Some of the plants and organisations in Rybnitsa and Komrat resumed work today while rail workers at Moldavia's largest locomotive shed in Bendery have been working

for two days now. Since the beginning of this week work resumed at all enterprises in Kishinev.

However, many striking enterprises in Tiraspol and Bendery remain idle, while leaders of strike committees urge workers to suspend the strike. Local governing councils held sessions in these cities as well as in Rybnitsa and Komrat. They called for suspending the strike.

As is known, the strikes were called in mid-August at many Moldavian enterprises over a language law, recently passed by Moldavia's Supreme Soviet, which the strikers believe infringes on the right of the Russian-speaking population.

Strikes Situation Updated

PM1509160389 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Sep 89 Morning Edition p 7

[Report under general heading: "Direct Link: Own Correspondents at the Teleprinter"]

[Text]

Sessions' Decisions. Eduard Kondratov report from Kishinev

The strikes at Moldavian industrial enterprises are continuing. The economic damage which they have caused already runs into tens of millions of rubles. The inhabitants of the cities where Moldavians are a minority are holding rallies to express their rejection of the results of the recent Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Supreme Soviet session which adopted the language laws.

At Rybnitsa, a joint session of the city and rayon soviet of people's deputies was held. It passed a resolution on the intention not to implement a number of articles of the adopted language laws because they are at odds with the USSR Constitution and the Declaration of Human Rights. It was decided to regard Moldavian, Russian, and Ukrainian as official languages on the territory of the city and the rayon.

At city soviet sessions in Bendery and Tiraspol, the majority of deputies also expressed themselves in favor of suspending individual articles of the language laws. At both sessions the question was raised of establishing autonomous formations where the inhabitants themselves would decide which language should be used for communication and working documents.

The participants in the sessions at Bendery and Rybnitsa called on strikers to return to work. However, the strike committee did not agree to this. Only Bendery railroad workers have returned to work. A public opinion poll on whether the strike should continue is under way in labor collectives at Tiraspol. According to preliminary information, most people are in favor of ending the strike.

I was told at the Moldavian SSR Supreme Soviet legal department that the decisions of the Rybnitsa, Tiraspol, and Bendery City Soviets are at variance with the Moldavian SSR Constitution and are therefore not enforceable.

Councils Decide To End Strikes

PM1809094989 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 17 Sep 89 First Edition p 1

[Own correspondent Colonel N. Mulyar: "Contradictions Remain"]

[Text] 15 Sep—M.S. Gorbachev's appeal to the working people to end the strike is being discussed in the labor collectives of the republic's enterprises which are on strike. I contacted the Rybnitsa party city committee [gorkom] by telephone. V. Malysh picked up the receiver:

"Today almost all the enterprises including the metallurgical plant and the pump plant have resumed work," he said. "The working rhythm is gradually returning to normal in the city..."

At Bendery only the locomotive depot is working at full capacity. In Tiraspol out of 62 striking collectives only the ferro-concrete components plant is intenting to resume work toward the evening. Rallies are in progress at the other enterprises in the city. The opinion is being expressed that if enterprises resume work, the workers demands will be forgotten and everything will be back to square one.

"Even now some people are trying to present our strike as an effort directed against the interests of the Moldavian people," S. Kalita, a worker at the "Elektromash" Plant instrument-making shop, told me in conversation. Certain mass media in the republic and certain representatives of the People's Front are especially prone to this type of behavior. However, no matter how hard they try to discredit the Russian-speaking population, most Moldavians understand perfectly well that we are struggling for the equality of all the nationalities and against nationalism and chauvinism. This is a step that has been forced on us. We are making use of it in order to defend our rights...

Sessions of city soviets of people's deputies at Rybnitsa, Bendery, and Tiraspol have adopted a decision to end the strike for the moment and to suspend Article 70(1) of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Constitution and of other articles of the law on the function of languages on Moldavian territory. They have called on the republic Supreme Soviet Presidium to amend the laws in accordance with the decisions adopted at their sessions.

The sessions which were held in the cities also adopted a decision to set up working groups to investigate the question of the establishment of an autonomous okrug within the Moldavian SSR and to elaborate the corresponding documents.

Supreme Soviet Chairman Evaluates Events

LD1609202589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Interview with Mircha Ivanovich Snegur, Moldavian Supreme Soviet Presidium chairman, by correspondent Dmitriy Kiselev, from the "Vremya" newscast—date and place not given]

[Text] [Dmitriy Kiselev, identified from screen caption] Mircha Ivanovich, in the last few days when we have been in Moldavia, we have often heard that the situation in the republic has reached a crisis. Do you agree with this evaluation?

[M.I. Snegur, chairman of the Moldavian Soviet Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium—identified by screen caption] Well, I wouldn't give such a simple evaluation of the situation in our republic. First, I would say that work is under way normally at the majority of industrial enterprises. At the same time, some enterprises, especially in the towns of Tiraspol and Bendery, are coming out of their political strike with great difficulty and complexity, so I would like to take this opportunity to again appeal, on behalf of the Supreme Soviet Presidium and on my own behalf, to the reason of the working class and the striking towns to return to their work places. As it is a lot has been lost and in order to make up for the shortfall it is necessary to work a lot and very hard before the end of the year.

[Kiselev] Mircha Ivanovich, you are a politician of the new wave, and for that very reason you have the task of mixing widely with the public. How are relations forming with the recently created public organizations and movements in Moldavia?

[Snegur] First of all, I would like to mention the People's Front of Moldavia, the Intermovement Yedinstvo [Unity], and the Gagauz Khalky Association. A lot of the activities of these groups is positive. It is sufficient to say that they all preach as the main point in their program support for the CPSU policy of perestroyka. So we are in the process of dialogue, in the process of a search for paths to consolidate. And we must be able to detach what is positive—which is what we are doing when we make contact with them—from what is negative and extremist.

[Kiselev] Mircha Ivanovich, doesn't it seem strange to you that s soon as we started to talk about public organizations and movements, we immediately switched over to extremism. It seems to me that this in general is a typical mistake of the times and here we are repeating it. So we are, as it were, transferring these individual extremist phenomena into the activity, into all the activities of these organizations and movements.

[Snegur] Well, this worries me, although in the first place we are taking everything that is healthy in the activities of these associations. Recently there have started to be fewer extremists appeals here, let's say, than there were before. I see our republic as a sovereign republic, a republic with a good model of republican financial autonomy, an autonomous republic, a self-administering republic in the framework of the federation. In so far as we are linked with different republics and regions by thousands, tens of thousands, i would say, of threads, it is impossible to foresee at this time the economy of the republic functioning without these links. [Video shows interview across the table in a large office with portrait of Lenin on wall]

Ukrainians Rally for Recognition of Banned Church

AU1709141689 Paris AFP in English 1310 GMT 17 Sep 89

[By Sophie Shihab]

[Text] Lvov, Soviet Ukraine, Sept 17 (AFP)—More than 50,000 Ukrainian Catholics celebrated an open air mass Sunday and 50,000 more joined their ranks in an unprecedented demonstration to press for recognition of their banned church.

Demonstrators sang hymns and waved portraits of the the Virgin Mary, strung with black mourning bands, under a sea of blue and yellow Ukrainain flags, as they marched towards St. George's Cathedral in this western Ukrainian city.

Lvov, the seat of the Ukrainian Catholic Church before Stalin forced its merger with the Orthodox church in 1946, was to be the scene of more protests throughout the day.

Church activists and nationalists, who recently formed the Ukraine Popular Movement for Perestroyka, planned to form a human chain later Sunday (18:00 GMT) and asked city residents to turn off their lights and set burning candles in their windows.

The protests were organized to highlight demands for the recognition of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, a move resisted by the Orthodox Church.

Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev is expected to meet with Pope Paul II in Rome in November. The Pope has made the issue of the Ukrainian church one of the main bones of contention between the Kremlin and the Vatican.

An appeal by the conservative Ukrainian Communist Party for a show of support met with little response here Saturday with only a small crowd gathering around the slogan, the "success of perestroyka hinges on internationalist unity." Local officials were unable to prevent a member of the nationalist movement from addressing the group.

In the Ukraine capital Kiev, the Communist Party managed to rally several thousand supporters in a stadium Saturday, according to Soviet television. They denounced "attempts by extremists to spread discord and distrust among the people."

This weekend marks the anniversary of the entry of Soviet troops into western Ukraine at the start of World War II, following the signature of a Nazi-Soviet pact in August 1939.

Rally Marks Unification Anniversary

LD1609171389 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Tomorrow marks the 50th anniversary of the unification of the western oblasts of the Ukraine with the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic and the Soviet Union. Let us listen to what Vladimir Lyashko, our correspondent, reports from Lvov today:

[Lyashko] A rally is being held in Lvov today of thousands of the townsfolk devoted to this anniversary and to discuss the CPSU platform on the nationalities issue. Rallies are no longer a source of amazement to our city—they are forever taking place for various reasons. One of the characteristic features of all the rallies, irrespective of who holds them, is the intolerance of the supporters of the informal associations toward any opinion that differs from their goals. That has been the case today as well. As you can hear, the speeches of those people who call for a balanced assessment, dialogue, and for forces to be combined in the name of perestroyka are being whistled down. From time to time everything is drowned out in a single cry—disgrace—in Ukrainian. Furthermore, anyone who has tried to address the rally's participants in Russian has quite simply not been allowed to speak. There is one other feature that can be detected: the representatives of the informal associations such as the Ukrainian Helsinki association, the Ukrainian Catholic Church and some others, while they call for a plurality of views and tolerance, are in actual fact dictating their demands, the uppermost among which is that a united and independent [last three words in Ukrainian] Ukraine be created.

As the rally has gone on, I have spoken to many people around me. Here are the opinions of just two of them.

[Unidentified woman] I would say that at the moment the situation is very tense. Sometimes I simply find it painful to hear the way that some comrades say pay no attention—it will all blow over, while with each passing day the situation and the tension increase. One gets the impression that the forces against perestroyka are gaining the upper hand. Now I would just like to draw the attention of our central bodies to this, so we don't let the situation get out of hand.

[Unidentified man] I would say the only question now is that of power.

[Lyashko] What do you think? What must be done now, in the present situation?

[Man] In my opinion—although this is not just my opinion but the opinion of very many people—there must be a consolidation of all the progressive forces of perestroyka.

[Lyashko] How should this be done?

[Woman] I think perhaps the need has arisen today to have the same sort of thing as the Intermovement in the Baltics. We should probably rally around that banner. [Shouting and heckling heard in background]

Further on 17 Sep Demonstration

AU1709195489 Paris AFP in English 1927 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Excerpt] Lvov, Soviet Ukraine, Sept 17 (AFP)—More than 100,000 Ukrainians staged nationalist and religious demonstrations here Sunday before forming a silent human chain of mourning on the 50th anniversary of the Soviet invasion that annexed the western Ukraine from Poland.

In Poland meanwhile, thousands turned out in Warsaw and Gdansk to mark the date officially for the first time.

As night fell, tens of thousands of Ukrainians lit candles and linked hands around Lvov's Lenin Square at the close of a day of demonstrations called to denounce the Red Army invasion of 1939 and demand re-legalization of the outlawed Ukrainian Roman Catholic Church.

Earlier, some 50,000 worshippers had gathered for an open-air mass in this western Ukrainian city, formerly the seat of the Uniate Church, as it is known, before being joined by another 50,000 for a march to St. George's Cathedral.

Youths forming the chain around the kilometer-long (half-mile) square held placards with drawings of a tomb, over which was written "Bolshevism = Fascism" and denunciations of the Soviet "occupation".

They waved blue and yellow Ukrainian flags and sporadically broke into chants of "Volia, volia" (freedom in both Russian and Ukrainian) before being hushed by organizers.

"Here in the western Ukraine, we have reached the same level of mobilisation as the Baltics. If the eastern Ukraine follows us, there will be no more Russian empire," Viatcheslaw Chernovyl [name as received], an ex-political prisoner told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE.

He heads the Helsinki Union of the Ukraine, a group combining support for the church legalization movement and local nationalists.

Police massed behind the square throughout the day but failed to intervene.

A group of young demonstrators told AFP: "Eighty per cent of Lvov's inhabitants are with us in their hearts, including Armenians and Jews, only the Russians—20 per cent of the population—are unhappy."

Soviet television reported the religious demonstrations. The Ukrainian Catholic Church was forcibly merged with the Orthodox Church in 1946.

Later in the evening, Lvov residents were to turn off their lights and put candles at their windows as a sign of "mourning" on the anniversary of the Soviet invasion. [passage omitted]

Kiev Rally Attacks 'Rukh' 'Extremist Forces'

PM1709145589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Sep 89 Second Edition p 2

[Own correspondents M. Odinets, I. Tikhomirov report: "In Support of Healthy Forces"]

[Text] Kiev—A rally was held at the Central Stadium in Kiev on Saturday on the initiative of party organizations, labor collectives, and the city's public. Right at the beginning of the rally it started raining, and the rows in some sections of the 100,000-seat stadium thinned out noticeably. However, despite the continuous downpour, the bulk of the people listened with interest to the speakers for 1 and ½ hours.

What is our position at this crucial moment in history which is described as perestroyka? And what should be done to renew all spheres of our life so as to ensure a better life for people?—this was the main theme of the speeches, and the audience of many thousands responded to them in a lively manner with applause and shouts of approval or condemnation; whistling, a familiar sound in soccer stadiums, was also heard. Quite naturally. The stances of the speakers were far from uniform, and the views of those present also differed widely.

The tone was set by the speech of A. Korniyenko, first secretary of the Kiev party city committee, who opened the rally.

"Our future," he said, "depends on the political stability and moral atmosphere inside our country, the degree of consideration that goes into people's thoughts and actions, and the coordination of the efforts of all the republics. Here everything is important, everything is vital. After all, it is a matter of the utmost importance—the fate of socialism, the future of our fatherland, and the tomorrow of our children and grandchildren."

A. Maslov, fitter at the production association named for Artem, A. Medvid, chairman of the Kiev Oblast "Zarya Kommunizma" collective farm [kolkhoz], S. Ostapenko, a veteran Red Cossack, writer Boris Oleynik, Colonel General B. Gromov, commander of the Kiev Military District, and others spoke with pain about the manifestations of political and ethnic intolerance which have become a reality and of the attempts to kindle the evil fire of hatred between peoples and to disunite them by any means, from unbridled social demagoguery to bloodshed, from overt slander of the organs of state power to attempts to discredit the Army. Attacks on the party are multiplying, and its role as society's political vanguard is belittled or obliterated altogether. It was noted that both the initiators of and the participants in this ignoble campaign seem to have forgotten, or do not want to remember, that it was the party which was the motive and cementing force of the people during the years of the gravest trials. And that it is the selfsame party which has been the initiator and guarantor of the current perestroyka and is actively renewing itself. Provocative statements at rallies, inflammatory "samizdat" publications, yellow and blue flags and even red and black Bandera flags—all these are realities of present-day life. We have no right to underestimate or ignore them, the speakers demanded resolutely.

Some speakers, pleading pluralism, called for an indulgent attitude toward the "Rukh" [People's Movement of the Ukraine for Perestroyka] and toward what took place a week ago at its constituent congress, which, as is known, was dominated not just by yellow and blue colors, but also by speeches directed against the party and against socialism. These people's exhortations met with a resolute rebuttal at the rally.

A. Ishchuk, leader of a team of construction workers, G. Mikhaylyuk, chairman of the Antifascist Resistance Fighters Society, poet Leonid Tatarenko, and Yu. Yelchenko, secretary of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee, said that it is necessary to be realistic and to call things by their proper names. The content and tone of many speeches at the "Rukh" Congress showed convincingly that extremist forces like the Ukrainian Helsinki Union are clearly gaining the upper hand in the People's Movement of the Ukraine for Perestroyka. They are overtly seeking power, advocating the withdrawal of our republic from the USSR, and encouraging ethnic strife, social confrontation, and economic chaos, and it is particularly sad that the nationalist, separatist, and antisocialist slogans are ringing out right here in ancient Kiev—"the mother of Russian cities" and the cradle of three fraternal peoples.

Denouncing the extremist aspirations of the reactionary members of "Rukh," the rally participants professed their support for the party's line of perestroyka and the creation of conditions for the free development of all peoples of our country and declared their determination to strengthen the friendship of the peoples of the USSR and to augment the wealth of the motherland by honest labor.

The rally, which took place under the motto "The success of perestroyka lies in international unity and cohesion!," adopted an appeal to the Communists, working people, and peoples of all the union republics.

Rally Participants Air Views

LD1609203789 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 16 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] A meeting was held in Kiev today under the slogan "The success of perestroyka lies in unity and cohesion".

Discussions were striking up even on the approaches to the stadium, especially around the members of the People's Movement of Ukraine for Perestroyka, "Rukh"-", which was recently set up in the republic. [Video shows crowds in streets, cutting to interviews with unidentified people at rally in a stadium]

[First man] I also want to express my attitude to internationalism, and to the friendship of our peoples. I am a native Ukrainian, and a Bulgarian, but I have never experienced any difficulties or complexities in mutual relations, and I think that there shouldn't be that sort of thing, because the situation that is taking shape here doesn't satisfy anyone by a long way. Both the ethnic minorities and the majority—we're brothers. We're all united, we're all doing the same job, in the name of the prosperity of our Soviet Union, and especially the Ukraine.

[First woman] I'm for "Rukh", for perestroyka.

[Second woman] Yes, we share that point of view.

[Third woman] So that deputies should listen to our views.

[Second man] I support perestroyka, and oppose "Rukh", which is organizing chaos in our country.

[Correspondent] The replies are, as you can see, varied, just as those speaking were varied, although each of them, in his own way, supported perestroyka. The worker, the veteran, and the writer spoke both in Ukrainian and in Russian, but no translation was required. Supporting the line towards perestroyka, they expressed concern in connection with the attempts by extremist elements to sow enmity and distrust among peoples.

Ukrainian 'Rukh' Congress Examined

PM1409190589 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Sep 89 First Edition pp 1,4

[own correspondents M. Odinets, I. Tikhomirov report under the rubric "We Discuss the Nationalities Question": "Where is 'Rukh' Heading?"]

[Text] Kiev—... Midnight on Sunday in Kiev. A dismal autumn drizzle. The streets and squares of the city were empty. Only a ragged column of excited, triumphant people was moving along Victory Avenue in the direction of the center. They were waving flags and chanting slogans, disturbing the first sleep of the people of Kiev. The flags were blue and yellow, and there were cries of "praise!" and "glory!" The few passers-by pressed themselves in fright against the walls of buildings, although the column was accompanied by a militia car, from which now and again came the warning over the radio: "Hey, you noisy people, you're causing a disturbance....!" "Hey, you've been warned...!" But the column continued moving.

This noisy nighttime procession and rally at the monument to Taras Shevchenko was the culmination of the 3-day constituent congress of the People's Movement of the Ukraine for Restructuring, "Rukh." In the spacious assembly hall of the Kiev Polytechnical Institute, hung with a multitude of yellow and blue flags, tridents, and the old emblems of Ukrainian lands and cities, which for some reason included Khelm, Peremyshl, and Kuban, a total of 1,109 delegates representing the movement's 280,000 members had gathered. All this time, from morning until late in the evening, the "Rukh" statute and program were discussed in an atmosphere of extreme exaltation fueled by anti-Soviet, antisocialist speeches, which received an approving roar from the audience. The nature of the congress' work determined the composition of the delegates: There were just 109 workers here and 16 representatives of rural areas. The rest were engineers, scientific associates, doctors, teachers, students, and priests.... Naturally, this structure far from reflects the social strata of the Ukrainian people. The unequal representation also made itself felt. Lvov Oblast, where, as is well known, the extremist wing of the movement has long been firmly established, received 190 mandates, while the proletarian regions—Kharkov, Donetsk, Voroshilovgrad, and Nikolayev Oblasts—received just 20 each.

It also came as no surprise that the Lvov representatives and their neighbors created a particular atmosphere in the hall and set the tone in the discussion, with the noticeable connivance of the congress leadership. Here is another detail. At the very start of the debates it was announced by the Presidium that more than 130 people had expressed a wish to speak. It seemed that a broad exchange of varied opinions was guaranteed; after all, the "Rukh" leaders had made a great show of the fact that their movement united forces from all strata of society and all persuasions. However, this pluralism of opinions did not materialize—throughout the congress, the overwhelming majority of speeches from the rostrum followed the same lines—anti-CPSU and antisocialism. And as the language became more colorful more insults could be heard in the speakers' vocabulary, the applause in the hall went on longer, and the shouts of "ganba!" ("shame!") became louder. And the standard-bearers waved their flags with more frenzy.

The attitude toward the party was the main question which faced the founders of "Rukh" from the moment of its inception. For a long time there were stormy discussions in the press and on television. The first draft program stated unambiguously: The movement recognizes the leading role of the CPSU. And at the congress itself, during the speech by L. Kravchuk, chief of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee ideology department, Dmitriy Pavlychko uttered the following assurance from the platform: "Leonid Makarovich, 99.99 percent of those here—as they used to say in reports on election results—everyone is in favor of cooperating with the Ukrainian Communist Party." You couldn't ask for more sincerity, it would seem, but what about what we heard at the congress. The very next speaker after Kravchuk—USSR People's Deputy

Colonel V. Martirosyan—harangued the party and its leaders with a torrent of totally groundless fabrications. "Can you name," he asked to the accompaniment of shouts from the audience, "a single honest person among members of the Ukrainian Communist Party Central Committee Politburo?" Another deputy, S. Konev, described the CPSU Central Committee Statement on the Situation in the Baltic Republics as "yet another provocation." The party as whole, as well as specific individuals, were insulted. Nasty words were spoken about the first secretaries of Donetsk, Odessa, Chernovitsy, Khmelnitskiy, and other oblast party committees. Matters got as far as sacrilegiously accusing V.I. Lenin of chauvinism. That was done by someone named Byrledyanu. At that point even the Presidium took alarm and issued a reminder that there were 224 CPSU members and 4 candidate members of the party among the congress delegates. After all, one in almost every four delegates was a Communist, and even the "Rukh" founders—Drach, Pavlychko, Yavorivskiy—hold party membership cards... But even that had no effect.

L. Lukyanenko from Chernigov region was especially malicious. He had already expounded his antisocialist views on many occasions. In an issue of the Munich-based Ukrainian nationalist newspaper SHLYAKH PEREMOGI, this figure held forth about the role played by Bandera's men who, in his opinion, "performed their historical mission," and he expressed regret that some of them—left behind for further subversive work—withered without producing any fruit. Had they died in battle and irrigated the soil with their blood, he wrote, it would have sprouted forth fresh fighters for freedom.

One recalls the tumultuous ovation with which A. Volkov, delegate from the Ivano-Frankovsk region, was greeted and sent off. Apparently his main virtue lies in the fact that his Communist work comrades expelled him from the party a few days ago for playing a double game.

Every now and then the congress leadership had to call the audience to order, begging them to be more selective in their expressions. This was especially strange in view of the fact that the hall contained dozens of doctors of sciences, hundreds of scientific associates, engineers, cultural figures—people who are commonly known as the intelligentsia. The vocal orgy really flared up whenever someone spoke in defense of the party. For example, S. Furmanyuk, a construction industry worker from Donetsk, and V. Pilipenko, a worker from Kremenchug, were heckled. Not only were they prevented from speaking, people made threatening gestures against them when they came down from the rostrum. No wonder, therefore, that the formulation about relations between "Rukh" and the party, as proposed in the first version of the program, disappeared without a trace. The document adopted by the congress says that "Rukh" supports nothing but the principles of society's radical renewal as proclaimed by the 27th CPSU Congress and the 19th All-Union Party Conference. Its goals are to be attained, as the People's Movement of the Ukraine statute declares, in cooperation with state institutions and soviet and party organs.

Everything becomes clear if you look into the real goals of those who had assembled to compromise the party in the people's eyes and to push it out of their way in order to come to power. No secret was made of this. USSR People's Deputy V. Chernyak, who was afterwards elected "Rukh" deputy chairman, bluntly declared: "The time has imperatively posed the question: Who will defeat whom? We must take power."

The tactics for winning the election campaign and getting a majority on the soviets were also worked out, after which, as they say, it is only a matter of the technicalities. "Their" parliament, their people in organs of power, will solve all "Rukh's" pressing problems.

"We know what we want," one of the movement's prime movers shouted from the platform. The 3 days of debate provided a pretty clear definition of precisely what "Rukh" does want. "So long as the Ukraine remains within the USSR none of its problems can be solved," one of the speakers thundered from the rostrum. Another demanded the abrogation of our country's present constitution. A third, condemning the "occupation" of the republic, demanded the withdrawal of the USSR Armed Forces and the creation of a Ukrainian Army... The list could be extended, but even what has been said gives an idea of the real intentions of the congress participants with the most reactionary attitudes.

The wording in the documents adopted by the congress is not so overt. Moreover, they reflect many of the real problems which have accumulated in the political, economic, ecological, national-cultural, and other spheres of the republic's life. The statute and program declare that "Rukh" intends to solve them. And that is natural. The compilers of the documents want to recruit as many people as possible into "Rukh." And even now it is impossible not to see that the People's Movement of the Ukraine also includes healthy forces who have realistic attitudes and sincerely want to play an active part in resolving the complex tasks of perestroyka.

It was said several times at the congress that "Rukh" has only just been born, that it is like a baby that has still to learn how to walk. This is a difficult task, and a great deal will depend on who is in charge of it. Describing the atmosphere at the congress at which the movement was formalized, USSR People's Deputy Ye. Stankevich, a guest from Moscow, made an apt remark:

"Bulging eyes and machismo have never made democracy more attractive, foaming mouths do not suit democracy. If there is any risk to our democracy today, it is the risk of drowning in the hatred which we ourselves are creating. It is very irksome when the vocabulary of new politicians, people who have just started on the political road, is limited to four expressions: 'gimme,' 'down with,' 'glory,' 'shame.' Political vocabulary cannot be

restricted to this. To become a politician you need to have a clear picture of what is going to happen to the country, the republic, and the peoples inhabiting the country and the republic in 5, 10, 15 years' time. You get the impression that here emotions are prevailing over constructive thinking."

The congress delegates have now gone home. What have they taken with them? Firm determination, doubts, thoughts about the future of "Rukh"—what will they take into their collectives and how will they be received? Let us not be categorical. We will just recount a small episode. During the nighttime procession a passer-by shouted sarcastically: "Football fans going home from a game, probably. A bad joke!"

He was wrong. The game is much more serious.

Ethnic Germans Form Society in Ukraine

LD1609213589 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1605 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Kiev, 16 Sep (TASS)—To assist the revival of Leninist principles in nationalities policy and to strengthen internationalist convictions as well as respect for and good will toward all Soviet peoples—this is the aim of the Ukrainian republican society of Soviet Germans, "Rebirth" [Vozrozhdeniye], which was established today. Taking part in the founding conference were representatives of more than 10 oblasts where there are small communities of citizens of German nationality.

The participants in the conference stressed in their speech that they totally support the CPSU draft platform on nationalities policy and that they call upon all Germans living in the Ukraine—and there are more than 34,000 of them—to cooperate more closely with the Ukrainians, Russians, and all the other peoples with which they are untied by the multinational Soviet motherland. The speakers noted that the party's contemporary policy on the nationalities issue ensures that conditions are created for the free development of all the country's peoples. They said: It our duty to contribute through our honest labor to the acceleration of the country's socio-economic development and to be worthy members of the Soviet multinational family. We musn't allow the Germans' prestige to be lost, that of an industrious people capable of performing very complex tasks quickly and with a high degree of quality.

At the same time, concern was heard at the conference that in various oblasts in the Ukraine the community ties among Germans are loose, that they are losing their language, culture, and traditions. In many places children have no opportunity to study in their native language. Soviet Germans are poorly represented in local organs of authority.

The statutes and program of the new public organization were adopted. These documents speak of the need to step up efforts to revive, preserve, and develop the national culture and native language, and to create all the necessary conditions to meet the national needs of citizens of German nationality as well as those of other nationalities. Comprehensive assistance to the government in tackling the issue of restoring the statehood of Soviet Germans—a German autonomous republic on the Volga and national rayons in places where they now live in small communities—is regarded as a separate point among the society's duties.

Elections of the society's council and board have taken place. Nikolay Ayrikh, a construction engineer from Berdyansk, was elected chairman of the board.

Staff of the consulates general of the GDR and the FRG in Kiev took part in the conference's work.

Estonian Strike Committee Officials Interviewed

LD1509201289 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 15 Sep 89

[Interview with K.S. Kopytina, member of the Estonian council of strike committees, and M.I. Lysenko, chairman of the Estonian council of strike committees, by unidentified correspondent; date, place not given—live or recorded; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] It is well known that in Estonia talks between the republics leadership and representatives of the republican strike committee are continuing. Our correspondent met the participants in these talks. [Video shows correspondent talking to Kopytina and Lysenko]

[Correspondent] Tell me please, what is the political situation in Estonia characterized by today when direct confrontation between the various political forces has given way, it would seem, to a dialogue? What has it been possible to achieve? What has it not been possible to achieve?

[Kopytina] First of all, during the dialogue, we established the main aims of stabilizing the political situation in the republic. During the talks we were successful in removing the thesis of the priority of the indigenous nation from the agenda, so that this priority of the indigenous nation would not run through all decisions and legislative acts.

[Correspondent] This has been signed by you and by the leaders of the republic?

[Kopytina] Yes, this is laid down bilaterally by a protocol. Besides this, before reprofiling and subordinating to the republic enterprises that are subordinate to the union, we consider that the labor collective has to make this decision and that this must happen with its agreement.

[Correspondent] And the opinion of the other side?

[Kopytina] The opinion of the other side is that this must happen taking only its opinion into consideration.

Taking an opinion into account and actually making the decision oneself are not synonymous concepts. We have succeeded in seeing that the agenda of the next session of the Supreme Soviet will be published before 1 October as well as the proposal of the Supreme Soviet Presidium to bring the law on elections of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic into line with the USSR Constitution. [passage omitted]

I remain an optimist. I think that we will find a common language with the Estonian people. Only it is necessary to show to some degree that those who are leading the people are mistaken and leading them simply to destruction.

[Lysenko] They are leading them into deadlock.

Latvia's Vagris Discusses Meeting With Gorbachev

LD1709231689 Riga in Latvian to Europe 2005 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Portions of an interview with Janis Vagris, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, by correspondent Janis Gavars on Latvian television; from the "Amber Coast" program; date of interview not given]

[Text] [Announcer] This week the first secretaries of the Communist Party, the chairmen of the presidiums of supreme Soviets, and the chairmen of councils of ministers of all three Baltic republics, the nine [officials] of the Baltics, were invited to Moscow. They had a meeting at the CPSU Central Committee with General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev. Apart from him, Politburo members Medvedev and Razumovskiy were also there.

After his return to Latvia, Janis Vagris, first secretary of our Communist Party, gave an interview on television. In a conversation with the journalist Janis Gavars the basic ideas of the meeting were expounded and it was explained how the Baltic representatives have assessed the recent statement of the CPSU Central Committee.

[Begin recording] [Gavars] On a number of occasions comrade Gorbachev has reminded us that we must form a federation of a new type, quite a strong federation. And in this connection I would like to know how he looked upon the endeavors for economic independence of the three Baltic republics. Was this touched upon in your talk?

[Vagris] This was touched upon, too, on this question, in my, well, discussion I also touched upon it because this is the chief, well, the first step which we are already putting into practice now, because, well, we must begin to do something concretely. Programs have been drawn up, yes? And the economy is a concrete matter. Well, this subject was supplemented there by comrade Bresis, precisely from the practical standpoint. Comrade Gorbunovs made remarks from the legal standpoint. This also needs to be addressed at the next session of the Supreme Soviet, and at the session of the Congress of People's Deputies. So that on this question—and also all three republics—in fact, a kind of a central question today is precisely economic independence and that new form of economy. They support it. [end recording]

[Announcer] In the conversation with the first secretary of the Communist Party of Latvia Central Committee on the meeting in Mosocw other questions were also touched upon which concern the Baltic region's and all-Union relations in light of the statement of the CPSU Central Committee on 26 August.

[Begin recording] [Gavars] Was the question about the central press touched upon?

[Vagris] Yes, the question about the central press was touched upon. We expressed complaints. These processes are reflected, after all, in a one-sided manner. And after this statement we even complained that we felt as if some kind, as it were, some kind of campaign was waged.

Well, Comrade Gorbachev kind of came back a little jokingly perhaps. He said, do not think there is no kind of campaign waged, because, he said, we receive a great many protests, say, from the Baltic republics about this document. Then we, too, can regard these complaints against you, against the republic's leaders that you, too, have organized some kind of a campaign, although we have not organized a campaign.

Well, but he said to comrade Medvedev, that if it is so in the republic, in the republics there are such opinions, our attitude towards it must be re-examined. [end recording]

[Announcer] We gave an insight into the interview with Janis Vagris, first secretary of the Communist Party of Latvia Central Committee, after a meeting with Mikhail Gorbachev this week in Moscow. Party and government leaders of all the Baltic republics were invited for a meeting at the Kremlin.

Supports Unity With USSR

LD1709143889 Moscow TASS in English 1422 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 17 TASS—"I cannot see, either today or in the perspective, any possibility for Latvia to exist without the confines of the Soviet Union," First Secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Jan Vagris said in an interview with the newspaper TRUD published today.

At the meeting of General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, President Mikhail Gorbachev with the leaders of the Soviet Baltic republics on September 13, Vagris noted, we were at one in the main thing—the aim of all our efforts is to strengthen the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, give a new meaning to our federation on the basis of Leninist principles of federalism, ensure economic independence of the union republics and renew the status of the republican Communist parties within the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

"I would also like to stress our common determination to protect perestroyka from attacks by conservatives and left radicals," Vagris pointed out.

Assessing the present situation in Latvia, Vagris described it as complex and far from simple, yet public life as a whole, he said, continues stable for all the political activity of the broad masses.

Vagris also said, that the root causes of tension should be sought in the economy. Its pressure on the political situation has considerably increased of late not only in Latvia but also across the country.

Vagris said he believed that the enactment on January 1, 1990 of the Law on the Economic Independence of the Republic would enable a reduction of tension in the nearest future.

In line with that document, the republic will honour its obligations before the national economic complex and participate in its development on the basis of agreements and contracts, proceeding from principles of a mutually advantageous division of labour and equivalent commodity exchange.

The leader of Latvian Communists pointed to numerous difficulties that will have to be overcome to create new economic mechanisms. In addition he said, the transition to republican profit-and-loss accounting will be further complicated due to an unfavourable general economic background.

Vagris said that the rate of growth of produced national income has dropped in Latvia as against the previous year. There have been cuts in supplies of many light industrial products and food supplies are not getting any better.

Republican builders have failed to ensure the commissioning of planned housing. The situation is far from simple in agriculture, too.

"Extremist and separatist statements surface once in while in the stormy torrent of declarations and petitions of all kinds that we superficially describe as 'a plurality of opinions'. The matters have gone so far that opinions are voiced rudely defaming the republican Supreme Soviet and the government, as well as the party and the Soviet Armed Forces".

"So it cannot be affirmed that there are no grounds for very strong expressions contained in the statement of the Central Committee of the Soviet Communist Party" on the situation in the republics of the Soviet Baltic Region, Vagris said.

The concern, and even anxiety, over the developments in the republic are quite understandable, Vagris said.

Latvian Party Plenum Reviewed

PM1809092589 Riga SOVETSKAYA LATVIYA in Russian 31 Aug 89 p 1

[LATINFORM-attributed "Information Report on the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee plenum resumed its work 30 August.

First secretaries of city and rayon party committees, chairmen of city and rayon soviet executive committees, leaders of ministries and state committees, representatives of trade union and Communist Youth League organs, secretaries of party committees with rayon party committee status, members of the editorial commission for additional work on the Latvian Communist Party Program, senior officials from the Central Committee apparatus who are not members of the Central Committee or its Auditing Commission, and mass media workers have been invited to attend the sitting.

The plenum continued its work on the previously adopted agenda:

1. Sociopolitical processes in the republic and the Latvian Communist Party's action program.

2. Organizational questions.

The plenum gave the right to vote to candidate members of the Central Committee, members of the Auditing Commission, and first secretaries of rayon party committees who are not members of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee.

A report on the results of work by the commission for additional work on the Latvian Communist Party Program was delivered by Commission Chairman Ya.Ya. Vagris, first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee.

The Latvian Communist Party's action program has been distributed among you for discussion and approval, he said. The commission proposes the following title for the program: "Along the Path to Latvia's Sovereignty." I would like to remind you that the debate on this item of the agenda was closed at the plenum's first part, and our task now is to thoroughly discuss the results of the commission's work and adopt this fundamental political document. The almost 3 weeks of the plenum's adjournment produced many new and topical developments in the political life of the country and the republic. The CPSU Central Committee statement on the situation in the Soviet Baltic republics generated an especially broad and diverse response among the republic's public.

The Central Committee Bureau has already expressed its viewpoint on this political document, and you are of course familiar with it. We are talking about a document which appeared in a highly complex and internally contradictory situation. It is, however, impossible to overlook the fact that it contains profound alarm and

concern for the process of perestroyka in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, for its constructive orientation. Obviously, the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee plenum will also express its viewpoint on this question. Let me emphasize just one point. Today's situation demands a weighty, self-critical, calm, and considered evaluation.

Prior to moving on to a direct discussion of the program's text, allow me to dwell on some fundamental conclusions by which the commission was guided in its work and which are typical of the results of its labor. To start with, I would like to remind you of the unique nature of this work.

I think you would agree that never before has a Central Committee plenum been prepared and conducted in such a fashion.

For a few months the entire republic discussed proposals by Communists and party organizations, a series of alternative action programs were published, and the overwhelming majority of Central Committee members expressed their viewpoint.

Following broad debates in conditions of full glasnost, the commission did some really intensive work on the creation of a new document, rather than simply effecting cosmetic changes in one of the previously submitted alternatives. Now, with a sense of utmost responsibility, we must bring to an end this collective creative work by the republican party organization, the work which we did with the people and for the people. Today, just as it happened on 10-11 August, we are being heard by all of Latvia, we address not only all of Latvia's Communists, we address Latvia's people because our joint quests and efforts have something in common—the quality of man's life, the fate of Latvia in perestroyka.

What you have in your hands is probably the first document since the onset of perestroyka in Latvia which has crystallized in the process of real collective creativity by the party and has fused different approaches and priorities within a unified political action program. This is a new quality which enables us to more specifically and more accurately define our present and future steps along the path to Latvia's sovereignty.

Of course, today we are hardly in a position to foresee everything that lies ahead—the turnabouts, the ups and downs—but the fundamental guidelines underlying the Latvian Communist Party's action program are the amendments introduced in the Latvian Soviet Socialist Republic [SSR] Constitution by the 12th session of the Latvian SSR Supreme Soviet, 11th Convocation, the declaration of Latvian State Sovereignty, the Law on Republican Economic Autonomy, and the determination to establish our position within the USSR national economy and the Soviet federation on a completely different basis starting next year. The action program being discussed today is simultaneously a program for Latvia's perestroyka. There can be no two opinions here—the path of perestroyka, of socialism's renewal, of democratization and glasnost is the path of priority for universal human values and respect for the nations' right to self-determination, the path of sovereignty and equality, of specific autonomy and responsibility. The party is asking itself the most searching questions. The party's perestroyka is yet to be completed, and it will not be easy.

Nonetheless, the action program maps out our path, and it is a path of autonomy and of the Latvian Communist Party's responsibility, a path of democratization, dialogue, and constructiveness. It is a path along which the party meets the people half way and marches along together with them. Today's debate and the adoption of documents itself will not solve anything, they will only lay the foundations for honorable performance of the hard work that lies ahead. All Communists and every primary organization must straight away engage in specific work in preparation for the local and republic soviet elections and the next party congress. We must prepare ourselves right away for a situation whereby the effect of crisis phenomena in the economy will be more and more persistently felt, while we will have to live and work in a regime of economic autonomy which is only just beginning to develop. We will need not so much an ability to vociferously present our claims and to stubbornly uphold them, but a skill to find compromises through political dialogue for the sake of the republic's common and vitally important interests. But Communists cannot remain indifferent to the high level of social tension, the reciprocal accusations, insults, and misunderstandings between different sections of society and the organizations representing their interests. Let me repeat again the idea that was already expressed at the plenum: We must cure ourselves of the "infantile disorders" of political processes because they can bring about far from infantile complications in the process of perestroyka in Latvia. It is impossible to irresponsibly rock the boat we all share, we must halt and realize that we all share a common future and a common worry—Latvia! After all, threats, stubbornness, and reciprocal envy do nothing but demolish our first and still fragile bridges of democratism, glasnost, and autonomy which lead across the abyss of crisis to the safe shore of stability, civilization, and progress. Everyone today must realize: There will be no sovereign Latvia without perestroyka, nor will there be perestroyka without a sovereign Latvia! The document submitted for your attention enshrines numerous guidelines for the Latvian Communist Party's activity, and it is important not to lose sight of them in our daily bustle or in the heat of political passions. But no single action program, no matter how detailed it might be, can offer answers to all questions, they must be sought jointly—in the course of a dialogue imbued with social responsibility, in the course of debates, and mainly in the specific reality.

I call on you, comrades, to adopt such an attitude when embarking on the discussion of the Latvian Communist Party's action program. How shall we organize our work? First, of course, we must agree on whether we can accept the draft elaborated by the commission as a basis. If the answer is in the affirmative, then I would suggest that the

next stage would be to discuss the text, page by page, and, whenever necessary, to adopt the final version of the text by voting. Since we still encounter technical difficulties as regards translation, I think that it would be more expedient to discuss the Russian-language version.

A painstaking discussion of every provision in the program followed the unanimous adoption of the draft as a basis. Following the introduction of amplifications and amendments adopted by plenum participants, the Latvian Communist Party's action program "Along the Path to Soviet Latvia's Sovereignty" was adopted in full and became a guideline for action by all Communists in the republic. The plenum submitted to broad discussion the problem of defining the republican party organization's new status in conformity with the Latvian SSR's sovereignty, proposing two possible versions.

Following a discussion, plenum participants adopted an address to Communists and all working people in the republic in connection with the CPSU Central Committee statement "On the Situation in the Soviet Baltic Republics." The text of the address will be published in the press.

Organizational questions were examined afterwards. The results of their examination will be announced in future issues of the newspapers.

G.P. Bratsun, deputy chief of sector in the CPSU Central Committee Party Building and Cadre Work Department, took part in the plenum's work.

The Latvian Communist Party Central Committee plenum ended its work 30 August.

Sajudis' Role in Interethnic Relations Viewed

18001576 Moscow GUDOK in Russian
31 Aug 89 p 3

[Letter to Executive Secretary of the Seym of Sajudis (Lithuanian Movement for Perestroyka) V. Cepaitis by Ramazan Ksirov, journalist: "Living as Brothers"]

[Text] Labas ["hello" in Lithuanian], Virgilius!

Pardon me for greeting you by given name only: After all, it is accepted among the Lithuanians to address others by name only. Perhaps, this carries a positive meaning: Unofficial forms of address relax people and predispose them toward each other faster.

We were not able to say many things in this short, hasty conversation in your crowded office (and in the reception room there was a huge line on top of that). Therefore, this letter is sort of a continuation of that conversation.

Allow me to begin with the language issue because the processes now under way in Lithuania, including the Vilnius Division of the Baltic Railroad, involve it in one way or another.

On 18 November 1988, the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR [Soviet Socialist Republic] adopted the Law on the State Language which from then on has been the Lithuanian. I understand that the intent was good—to enhance the prestige of the native language, improve instruction in it and its development, bring back ethnic awareness. Pursuant to this law, social organizations, offices, industry and transportation enterprises should conduct their business solely in the Lithuanian language.

Specialists speaking Russian account for a majority of employees at the enterprises of railway transportation in Lithuania. I have visited many enterprises of the Vilnius Division of the railroad, have talked to railroad employees, including many Lithuanians. They support the concept of the Law on the State Language, but believe that an exception should be made for the railroad transportation by virtue of specific peculiarities of its operations. There can be no haste in introducing the Lithuanian language in this sphere.

Let us assume that one can turn a blind eye to the fact that the railroad workers in Lithuania report to work and go home now on local time rather than on Moscow time, despite this causing them certain inconvenience, as the railroad employees themselves admit. An abrupt switch to the Lithuanian language may cause even greater difficulties in this sphere, and quite serious at that.

In any event, the railroad employees believe that the issue of the working language should be approached in a quite sensible manner. After all, they did find a way out in the Vilnius Engine House of Diesel Trains. Many engineers here do not speak Lithuanian. This is why they made announcements on train stops in Russian. This caused complaints on the part of Lithuanian passengers. What was to be done? Deputy Chief of the Engine House L. Liudvinavicius took up the matter. Under his guidance, a radio announcer device in two languages, Lithuanian and Russian, was developed and installed on the trains.

Stasys Labutis, deputy chief of the Vilnius Division for personnel, presented me with a book "The State Language of the Lithuanian SSR." On its cover, the words of V.I. Lenin on the language in ethnic republics are featured prominently.

Do you know what I was thinking about when I read these lines? The learned specialists of Lithuania frequently resort to quotations from the works of Lenin in the local press, in public statements, and just in conversations. Of course, there is nothing prejudicial about that. On the contrary, it is remarkable that the intellectuals of the republic frequently turn to Lenin, and search for answers to the questions of concern to them in his works. At the same time, the following fact is amazing: the avenues in Vilnius and Kaunas which used to be named after Lenin are now named otherwise....

On 23 October 1988, the Founding Congress of the Lithuanian Movement for Perestroyka adopted its program. The multinational contingent of the railroad

employees of the republic appreciates and understands the following lines: "The movement condemns any injustice on ethnic grounds, humiliation of ethnic dignity, culture, and language," "...it is necessary to acknowledge equal social, economic, and cultural rights and freedoms for all citizens of the Lithuanian SSR regardless of their ethnic background, language, religion, and customs." These are good words. However, things look somewhat different in life, especially on the daily round, as the railroad employees testify. They do communicate at work in Russian due to the technological necessity, but when they go into the street, to the city, they believe it inappropriate (some are even afraid) to speak Russian in order not to draw a look of disapproval from Lithuanian passers-by....

Unfortunately, excesses happen in the course of mundane activities which make Russian-speaking railroad employees be cautious, cause concern and alarm among them. For example, what is your attitude toward the case when a grandson of Viktor Mikhaylovich Manzhulo, director of the G. Zemaitis Railroad Museum at the division of the railroad, was beaten up in the street just for daring to respond to a question in Russian?

This is not an isolated case.

Assistant engineer from the engine house Petras Arulis meets on his spare time with his Russian friend from Vilnius, with whom they served together in Afghanistan. Sometimes the guys go to a cafe, sit down at a table, and over a cup of tea or coffee recall their comrades in arms, both the dead and the living. It does happen that their conversation is interrupted by rowdy thugs: You see, they do not like the fact that the "afgantsy" [Afghanistan veterans] speak in a language other than Lithuanian...

In Kaunas, some railroad employees from time to time encounter cases of this nature, for example, in public transportation: If you start speaking to a ticket inspector in Russian, you will be cursed out immediately: "Go back to that Russia of yours, and speak Russian there!"

Or is the following conceivable: A Lithuanian teacher calls up the only Russian girl in the class (she is the daughter of V. Andreyev, engineer at the Engine House in Kaunas) to recite her lesson and addresses her in no other manner but "Rusikas ["little Russian" in Lithuanian], come to the blackboard!.."

This is no longer just street rudeness. There is something else, something more sinister, at work in the school. In this case, the teacher not only humiliates the Russian student before her Lithuanian peers, but sows in their souls the poisonous seed of nationalism...

"An intelligent person cannot be a nationalist," says Pranas Stankevicius, a labor veteran, a communist, the chief of a rail detector car of the Vilnius Track Section. Five Poles, three Lithuanians, two Belorussians, and one Mordovian woman work amicably under his supervision. Pranas and his multi-ethnic brigade do not agree with those who are inclined to believe that the Russians are the reason for all troubles of the Lithuanians. Pranas and his comrades at the section understand: If the Lithuanians are doing badly, this means that the Russians are having their problems too. After all, both of them live under the same political and economic system!

In general, the opinion exists here: If something is not done properly in the center, the Russians are to blame. In the process, the Russians who live in Lithuania suffer.

Ignas Cesavicius, a mobile crane operator at the Kaunas Mechanized Section for Loading and Unloading, spent 10 years living involuntarily far from his native land, in Siberia, where his peasant parents were exiled in 1948. At the time, they lived over there in locations to which not only the Lithuanians but also the Russians were exiled. This is, perhaps, the reason why Ignas, despite what he has been through, does not believe that his family has suffered because of the Russians. He understands that all of this is the fault of the dark forces of Stalinism which persecuted the people regardless of their ethnic affiliation...

Some other strange occurrences (not to use another word) come about in the life of Vilnius and Kaunas which leave the railroad employees bewildered. For many years, a memorial plaque stating that the collective of the division, winner of the All-Union Socialist Competition, has been awarded a memorial banner of the CPSU Central Committee, Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, USSR Council of Ministers, and the AUCCTU [All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions] on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, hung on the wall at the entrance to the administrative building of the Vilnius division of the railroad. Suddenly, the plaque disappeared; it is no longer there; it has been removed... The following case makes many railroad employees, particularly war veterans, sad: The tank which in 1944 was among the first to break into the city held by the Hitlerites has been removed from the pedestal. "It brought liberation, but forgot to leave"—this is how KAUNASSKAYA PRAVDA wrote about this tank...

The author of the report does not conceal his enthusiasm in rendering this dialogue: Somebody asked the employees of the 14th Motorized Pool who were charged with taking the tank away about where it was to be hauled. They answered: "For now, to Asigalije Street." The response was: "Why so close? Take it to Moscow."

Perhaps, Tautvidas Senkevicius, chief of the Vilnius Electricity Supply Section, an honorary railroad employee, is right when he states that the Sajudis initially went too far in its drive to boost the ethnic awareness of Lithuanians. At present, in the words of Tautvidas, the Sajudis is doing everything in order to "backpedal," that is, it is now trying to calm down its adherents and to direct their emotions into a proper channel.

"There are hotheads not only in Georgia, but in Lithuania as well," said Tautvidas.

The Azeri R. Kuliyev, captain, chief of the militia line post at Kazlu-Ruda station, who is married to a Russian woman, is among the supporters of the Sajudis. He supports the good intentions of the Sajudis, and believes that it wants all people in Lithuania, regardless of their ethnic background, to live well.

The Sajudis member Algis Tilvikas, engineer at the Vilnius Engine House of Diesel Trains, is of the same opinion. He says that at the engine house, as well as at the entire division of the railroad, businesslike relations dominate over isolated emotions on an ethnic background. The reason is, perhaps, in the fact that simple human relations are strong here.

Algis is happy with the way his coworkers—the Jew Yuriy Khevit, the Ukrainian Gennadiy Shmatko, the Russian Fedor Khazov, and the Pole Jozef Sokolowski—treat him.

"Our friendly contacts do nothing but promote our common cause," believes Algis.

Train classifier at the Vilnius terminal Jokubas Gumbis said: "Lithuanians account for only about 15 percent of those working here. The rest consists of Russians, Poles, Belorussians, Ukrainians. Understandably, we communicate in Russian. I see nothing bad in this. This is the way it has to be. This is railroad transportation, after all! The introduction of the Lithuanian language here disrupts our work..."

The veteran of railroad transportation, fitter of the Vilnius Engine House of Diesel Trains Konstantinas Cickevicius works amicably in the same brigade with the Poles Nowicki and Riska.

In general, whatever brigade you look at in the engine house, its composition is multi-ethnic.

I asked Raimond Oklinskas, fitter of the preparatory shop, communist, cavalier of the Order of Labor Glory, third degree, and member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Lithuania: "Could it be that this has been done on purpose?"

Raimond smiled: "No way! Look at our brigade, for example. We repair compressors. There are three of us: Viktor Stepchenko, Jonas Andriauskas, and me—a Russian, a Lithuanian, and a Pole. It is just that we liked each other, and decided to work together. This is all there is to forming a brigade. I will tell you honestly that we are a tightly knit brigade. This is, perhaps, the reason why our performance is good. There has not been an occasion when we failed to meet the quota."

In the preparatory shop, I met the young Belorussian fitter Vladimir Tvargal.

"I cannot imagine a man who would 'pick' his friend or wife solely on the basis of his ethnic background. My wife Ira is Lithuanian. My friend here, at the engine house, is Juozas Anaskauskas, a Lithuanian. Sabir Adizov, an Uzbek, was my friend in the army... I somehow do not give much thought to what one's ethnic background is. I see that he is a good guy, a kind person. So, I make friends with him."

...The Pole Jan Laszakiewicz, senior foreman at the diesel engine house, had a happy occasion: His son Valeriy came back after serving in the army. He stayed with his parents for a while, and then went to Kandalaksha, to an army buddy of his who, incidentally, is Lithuanian.

I asked Laszakiewicz: "As far as I understand, Jan, interethnic relations in the engine house are quite normal. However, this is within the confines of the enterprise. What is the situation on the other side of the gates? What is your opinion of the situation outside work, in the city?"

"What can I say... It varies... For example, I judge this by how we get along at home with our neighbors. Driver Bronis Vasiliauskas is one neighbor on our floor; Yuriy Rozhkov, fitter at the electric welding equipment plant, is the other. We stay in touch. They visit me, and I visit them. Bronis and Yura are avid fishermen. They have also got me hooked; we fish together on days off. Or else we head for the stadium when there is a soccer game. All of us are avid 'Zalgiris' fans..."

Engine operator from the Vilnius Engine House Juozas Jungevicius observed: "It appears to me that the railroad employees of the division are concerned about social problems rather than interethnic relations (in this department, everything is all right at work). I do not know what to do about the introduction of the Lithuanian language in transportation. This is a difficult issue, you cannot solve it overnight. As far as the request that we have our own Lithuanian railroad is concerned, I am in favor of it. After all, we have experience, and favorable at that. I have been working in transportation since 1953, and I remember: At one time, until 1965, we had the Lithuanian Railroad. How did we live then? At present, housing is our greatest problem. When there was the [Lithuanian] Railroad, our engine house received up to 30 apartments a year. After 1965, when the Baltic Railroad was set up, we've been only getting 7 to 8 apartments."

In summation, Virgilius, I would like to wish you...

"We live as brothers"—this is how the lathe operator Ivan Gasiunas, a cavalier of the Order Badge of Honor, who has been working here since 1944, briefly described interethnic relations in the wheel shop of the Vilnius Engine House of Diesel Trains. So, Virgilius, I want people of different ethnic backgrounds to live as Gasiunas has said, "As brothers," all over Lithuania.

It is set forth in the Sajudis program: "It is necessary to instill mutual respect and cooperation of peoples." Railroad employees of the Vilnius Division of the railroad believe that the Sajudis will assist in removing the obstacles artificially thrown up by certain forces on the path toward common sense, wisdom, and brotherhood.

I wish you, Virgilius, much energy and health in this noble pursuit!

Lithuanians Reject Polish Autonomy

LD1709203189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1530 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] A report on the creation of the second autonomous rayon in Lithuania. The Lithuanian public's nonacceptance of the idea of Polish autonomy is well known. This was also stated by Astrauskas, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the republic and by leaders of Sajudis, the papers have written. The reasons are as follows: the Polish populace will, in conditions of the present administrative-territorial division, receive guarantees of its civil rights. The creation of autonomy contravenes the Constitution of the Lithuanian Soviet Socialist Republic. Lithuania is indivisible, but the Polish population of the republic does not agree with that position. As at the recent session of Salcininkai rayon soviet, where the decision on autonomy was adopted, a session of Vilnyusskiy rayon soviet of people's deputies adopted by an overwhelming majority of votes a decision on declaring its rayon a Polish autonomous rayon with self-government within the composition of Lithuania.

Attitudes Toward 1939 Events Not Unanimous

LD1709204589 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Report by V. Lyashko from the city of Lvov, Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Today, it has been 50 years since the reunification of the western oblasts of the Ukraine with the USSR began. On the eve of this anniversary, there was a public rally in Lvov devoted to the date and to discussing the CPSU platform on the nationalities issue. Just like at many other rallies which are constantly taking place in our country, the attitudes toward the events of 1939 and the nationalities policy are not unanimous. Supporters of non-party associations are demanding a reappraisal of the August-September 1939 events; they are calling for official recognition of national symbols and demanding that the Ukraine be granted full political and economic independence.

I should say that currently, bills on state languages and on elections to the soviets of people's deputies have been published in the republic, including, a few days ago, an alternative bill on elections submitted by a group of USSR deputies from the Ukraine. A concept on the republic's transfer to regional financial autonomy has also been submitted for debate. But the discussion of these important documents far from always takes place in a calm and businesslike atmosphere. Most often, like yesterday, the participants in the rallies are overwhelmed by emotions and intolerance toward each other's positions is manifested. [video shows crowds of people with Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic blue and yellow and Ukrainian red and white trident flags; militiamen in the crowd; speakers at lectern; applauding crowd]

Today in Lvov thousands attended a demonstration and mass by Ukrainian Greek Catholics. Officially, the Ukrainian Catholic Church was dissolved immediately after the war. The participants in the demonstration adopted a message to Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev with an appeal to restore the legal status of the church, rehabilitate it, and provide legal guarantees for its activity. A message to Pope John Paul II was also adopted. According to the estimates of the demonstration organizers, some 100,000 people took part in it. [video shows church; crowds in a street, with the blue and yellow Ukrainian flags; a pair of nuns; a woman with a candle; more crowds in streets]

CPSU Central Committee Declaration Viewed

LD1509133089 Vilnius TIESA in Lithuanian 30 Aug 89 p 1

[Reader's letter by Juozas Gaiziunas, docent, Political Economics Department, Vilnius University, entitled "Internationalism—That Is Cooperation Among Equals."]

[Text] The view of the Baltics portrayed in the Communist Party of the Soviet Union Central Committee declaration is not unexpected. Traditionally, proposals are expressed on similar occasions. We think: Let us sit down and confer, search for a point of contact and coordinate those interests which often become objectively contradictory.

Perhaps I am mistaken, but having read the text one receives the impression that one seeks to burn the bridges, slam the door on dialogue and open a door for the rights of the strongest. Does this not bear a similarity to an instance where a lamb accused of sullying the water does not accomplish anything in trying to point out that it had been standing downstream. Forces exist, apparently, which are interested in us to becoming the recipients of somewhat revised declarations of the fall of 1956, concerning the situation in Poland and Hungary, the summer of 1968, in Czechoslovakia and the proposals of the end of December 1979, concerning the dispatching of the military forces into Afghanistan.

We must look around, however, to see if our irresponsible hotheads are not providing food for the policy of clubs and canons? Let us not allow ourselves to become provoked. Let us strive to solve our problems in a positive fashion. Let us march ahead peacefully. Let us not retreat, and let us not allow ourselves to be shoved from the Baltic route, which has been founded on civilized action, democratic political culture, a nation's yearnings, tolerance and understanding of the country's geopolitical realities, close ties of an independent country with its neighbors, with Russia (we wish to improve and develop them) and open windows to the world.

Gradual development amounts to evolution. It is also an effective establishment of national economy. Professional and productive labor stems from a serious regard for it. True internationalism is one which does not conceal assimilation, but rather contains cooperation among equal countries. Currently, we are in need of all these.

Chernobyl Commission Holds Session

LD1609184989 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 16 Sep 89

[From the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] A session of the government commission on eliminating the consequences of the accident at Chernobyl nuclear electric power station [AES] has been held in Bryansk.

[A. Guglya] [Video shows commission members looking around villages and talking to populace] The six southwestern rayons of Bryansk Oblast turned out to have been subject to radioactive contamination as a result of the accident at the Chernobyl AES. In figures, the picture looks like this: 300,000 people living on the territory of 260,000 hectares. The members of the government commission on eliminating the consequences of the accident at Chernobyl AES, led by Comrade Doguzhiyev, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, were briefed on the progress of decontamination work in the settlements in the contaminated rayons, visited collective and state farms and social and cultural amenities, and examined the way trading, medical, and consumer services to the population are being organized.

It was originally planned to evacuate 11 settlements in the third contamination zone. After the radioactivity situation had been more precisely assessed, however, on the basis of an analysis of decontamination work, another 20 villages and hamlets were added to this list—13 of them because of the radioactivity factor, and 7 on social grounds.

Adoption of the decision to evacuate these settlements was held up due to assessments of the radioactivity situation that were sometimes ambiguous, and due to lack of coordination between the recommendations of scientific research institutions and individual scientists. Other rayons in the oblast, such as Zhiryatinskiy, Sevskiy, and Zhukovskiy rayons are ready to receive the migrants, help them build houses, and fix them up with jobs. In a word, they will not leave their neighbors in misfortune.

In the near future the commission will submit to the government and the Supreme Soviet specific proposals on the program for further eliminating the consequences of radioactive contamination of the southwestern rayons of Bryansk Oblast. The program should take into account the blunders and unsystematic actions perpetrated during the first stages of this important task.

Supreme Soviet Commissions, Committees Resume

LD1809143789 Moscow•TASS in English 1424 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 18 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

Committees and commissions of the two chambers of the USSR Supreme Soviet, elected by the Congress of People's Deputies early this summer, have resumed work here today after parliamentary holidays. The second session of the Soviet Parliament will open in the Kremlin next Monday, September 25th.

Today the parliamentary committees and commissions discussed plans of their further work and tomorrow they will get down to the consideration of documents that will be submitted to the coming session of the Supreme Soviet.

"Their list is rather long, promising the parliament's work to be far from easy," Nikolay Rubtsov, chief of the secretariat of the Supreme Soviet's presidium, noted today at a meeting with newsmen. During the first weeks of the parliament's sittings attention will be focussed on drafts of the State Plan and Budget for 1990.

Rubtsov said that the current session would discuss also a package of major economic bills. They include laws on property in the USSR, on land and land usage, on lease and lease relationships, on uniform taxation, and also on general principles governing economic and social management in union republics.

Figuring on the agenda are also documents designed to ensure the efficient work of parliament members. They include draft procedural rules for the Congress of People's Deputies and the USSR Supreme Soviet, a law on the status of people's deputies. Constitutional matters will hold an important place too. The needed suplements and amendments to the basic law will be discussed by the Supreme Soviet and then referred for final approval to the forthcoming second congress.

Newsmen were shown the new electronic vote-counting system installed in the Supreme Soviet assembly hall.

Committees To Discuss Economy

LD1709221889 Moscow World Service in English 2100 GMT 17 Sep 89

[Text] The Soviet parliament will begin the discussion of an economic recovery program on Monday [18 September]. Before parliament goes into session on the 25th [of September], the program will be discussed in its committees. The government will bring before it a draft state plan and budget estimates for next year. The national economy has been geared to social needs. Government investment in the heavy industry is to be reduced and the funds saved will be saved on social needs.

The deputy prime minister, Dr Leonid Abalkin, feels the two drafts may draw mixed response in society, but he does believe parliament will adopt both. Some members of parliament have said in interviews with newsmen they are working on alternative proposals and intend to submit them to colleagues.

USSR Supreme Soviet Session To Begin 25 Sep

LD1609071389 Moscow TASS in English 0707 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 16 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

The questions of reversing negative trends in the development of the Soviet economy and creating a basis for its stable operation in the future will be one of the main issues at the upcoming 2nd session of the USSR Supreme Soviet (parliament), which will open in the Kremlin on September 25. But committees of the USSR Supreme Soviet and commissions of its two chambers—the Council of the Union and the Council of Nationalities— will resume their work even a week earlier, on September 18.

Deputies to the Soviet parliament will be offered for approval several important documents on the economy, drafted by the government, including the drafts of the state plan and budget for 1990, which are largely of emergency character as to the scale of set goals and methods of their achievement. The government proposes that the state budget deficit should be halved in one year from 120 billion rubles this year to 60 billion in 1990. This will be possible only by stiffening the finance policy and cutting drastically many outlays.

The government plans a considerable (6.7 per cent) increase in the production of consumer goods with a modest (0.5 per cent) growth in the output of means of production. There will be a dramatic cut (nearly by 30 per cent) in state capital investments in the production sphere. It is also planned to establish a market of securities in the USSR.

Leonid Abalkin, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and member of the USSR Academy of Sciences, regards the financial improvement and social reorientation of the economy as the main elements of the plan and budget. In his opinions, the drafts may provoke various responses in society due to their unusual character and stiffness.

The discussion on these documents has already begun. For instance, writing in the latest issue of GOVERNMENT HERALD, Academician Abel Aganbegyan disputes expediency of such sharp cuts in industrial investments, especially in the fuel-energy and metallurgical complexes.

The drafts of the 1990 plan and budget are closely linked with the package of bills which is also submitted for the consideration of the autumn session of the Soviet parliament. The main among them will be evidently a document providing for restructruing of ownership relations and legislative formalisation of its diverse forms and definition of differences between the ownership of the union as a federation and republican and local ownership.

Among other documents submitted for the session's consideration are bills on land and land tenure, leasing, a single tax system in the USSR and general principles of local sefl-rule and local economy. Along with bills on banks, joint stock societies and anti- monopoly legislation, which are now under preparation, they will be the legal basis for a new stage in the Soviet economic reform.

Agenda Announced

LD1809070589 Moscow TASS in English 0655 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow September 18 TASS—By TASS parliamentary correspondent:

The first parliamentary recess of the new Supreme Soviet of the USSR, elected by the Congress of People's Deputies early this summer, is over. parliamentary committees and commissions of its two chambers will resume work in Moscow today [18 Sep]. The second session of the Supreme Soviet will start in the Kremlin a week from now, on September 25th.

As a matter of fact, the period after the first session was hardly a rest-time for the deputies. These one and a half months were crammed with meetings with electors, sharp discussions and, first and foremost, preparations for the forthcoming session. The importance of the decisions which the latter is expected to pass is explained by the acuteness of problems confronting the country, by the urgency of many complicated isues.

The Soviet MTs are to discuss drafts of the state plan and budget for 1990. These documents are of an extraordinary character and designed to stop the economic downslide, to ensure initial steps aimed at making the economy sounder financially and to continue its social reorientation.

Furthermore, the deputies will discuss a package of important economic legislations, including the law on property in the USSR, on land and land usage, on leasing and lease relations, on a uniform taxation system, and also on common principles governing economic and social management in union republics.

Its agenda will also include documents ensurindg the efficiency of the work of parliament members. They include draft rules governing the procedure of Congresses of People's Deputies and the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the law on the status of people's deputies.

It ought to be noted in conclusion that the autumn session of the Soviet parliament is to be a sort of preparatory stage for the second Congress of People's Deputies of the USSR, which is to consider also several constitutional questions. The necessary supplements and

amendments to it will be discussed by the Supreme Soviet and submitted for approval by the Congress.

Such, in general outline, is the programme of the second session of the Soviet Parliament, supreme legislative body of the country. Its efficient fulfilment will be ensured largely by the unique experience, accumulated by deputies during the first session.

Gorbachev Reportedly Will Open Party Plenum

LD1809122189 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1138 GMT 18 Sep 89

[By Aleksandr Novacic]

[Excerpt] Moscow, Sept 18 (TANJUG)—A plenum of the Soviet Communist Party Central Committee on inter-ethnic relations, that has been planned for three years now, will open tomorrow [19 September] with a report by Mikhail Gorbachev, reliable Soviet sources claim in Moscow today.

One of the most delicate problems of the Soviet Union thus comes up for depate in the highest party organ at a time of extremely strained relations. It has just been reported that five people were killed and 27 persons, including women and children, seriously wounded in an explosion of a time bomb planted in a bus travelling from neighbouring Georgia to Azerbaijan.

This latest terrorist act clearly reflects the overall situation of national relations in the Soviet south. The situation is not any better in the north, where the Baltic republics call for a secession from the Soviet Union, or in the west, in Moldavia and in Ukraine, the country's second-largest republilc after the Russian republic—where signs of growing disquiet have been in evidence in the past months.

Tarazevich Discusses Interethnic Problems

LD1609154389 Moscow World Service in English 1410 GMT 16 Sep 89

[Text] A full-scale meeting of the Soviet Communist Party's Central Committee opens in Moscow on Tuesday the 19th to consider interethnic relations. The entire complex of these problems has been widely discussed over the past few weeks following the publication of a draft platform of the party on the nationalities policy. Our commentator Boris Markovnikov has been talking to the chairman of the parliamentary commission on the nationalities policy and interethnic relations, Georgiy Tarazevich. The first question was: What in your view are the main ideas of the party platform?

The party proceeds first of all from the equality of all the nationalities and ethnic groups, from the principle of mutual respect between them. These principles were proclaimed in the past too but they were declarations sincew they weren't enforced legally. The parliamentary commission that I head has an aim to prepare such laws, said deputy Tarazevich. It so happened that the various peoples in this country, he continued, have a different national territorial status, hence their inequality. It's necessary to end the injustice by amending the constitution accordingly. On the other hand, by impinging on the independence of the republics, the center has concentrated a great deal of power in its hands. The centralism has led to many disastrous consequences. Therefore, one major aim of perestroyka is to properly delineate the functions between the republics and the center. The reaction to the arbitrary state of affairs has resulted in the Baltic republics adopting norms whereby a law of the whole of the Soviet Union applies to the republic only after the republican parliament ratifies it. Were there constitutional delienation of rights and duties of the center and the republics, there would have been no such problems.

The next question to deputy Tarazevich was: One acute problem in interethnic relations in this country right now is that of Nagorno-Karabakh, an autonomous region in Azerbaijan with a predominantly Armenian population. How is it possible to resolve the problem in your view?

The commission that Georgiy Tarazevich heads is dealing with this problem now on instructions from the Congress of People's Deputies. I can only say one thing: It'll be possible to settle this conflict only through a dialogue by reaching a mutually acceptable agreement, said Georgiy Tarazevich. Conciliatory forums and commissions must be created and its up to Armenians and Azerbaijanians to decide who should sit on such forums and commissions. There should be no dictat there—dictat is unacceptable in general in solving any ethnic conflict.

Reader Urges Congress on Democratization

PM1809104189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Sep 89 Second Edition p 2

[Letter from N. Yurokhin under the rubric "Party and Perestroyka: Readers' Opinion": "From Primary Party Organizations to Central Committee"—PRAVDA headline]

[Text] The time has come when everyone who considers himself a communist is concerned by the situation in our party and particularly around it. M.S. Gorbachev mentioned this at the recent CPSU Central Committee conference.

Among other difficulties and shortcomings note is rightly made of the inefficiency of the operation of primary party organizations. For the past 5 years I have worked in the party bureau of a large subdepartment of our enterprise and for 3 years I have been its secretary without a break from work. That is why I see the reasons for the difficulties which have arisen and, the main thing, the ways of overcoming them, somewhat differently from the Comrade Onikov, the author of the article published in PRAVDA 10 July. As a whole it seems to me that it is now already essential to pay more attention to the discussion of specific proposals for finding a way

out of the crisis and to mention shortcomings and difficulties only as arguments for one's proposals. The simple discussion and enumeration of negative phenomena in the CPSU is no longer so topical.

Of all the tasks facing the CPSU the most urgent, it seems to me, is the democratization of internal party life. We cannot judge the state of this question only by how many secretaries have been elected from alternative candidates (incidentally, under present conditions, when it is far from simple to select and persuade even one candidate to apply, this criterion for democratization gives rise to sizeable doubts).

The main thing lies elsewhere. You only have to analyze how newly created top state organs and the supreme organs of the CPSU now in operation are elected and how they work to understand the dissatisfaction of many Communists and nonparty people. Of course, the structure of state and party organs does not have to be homogenous but the democratic principles for the formation and activity of elected organs should not depend on their specific features.

It would seem that the political vanguard of society should improve and apply these principles first of all to itself. But everything has happened otherwise. And after the elections to the local soviets the situation with regard to the democratization of party life will obviously become even more acute.

I want to submit the following proposals for discussion. At the forthcoming CPSU Central Committee Plenum it is essential to adopt a resolution on convening the 28th CPSU Congress. This resolution should define the procedure for electing the congress delegates by direct secret ballot of all Communists. This will be a provisional procedure until the congress. The congress should take the final decision on this issue. As it should on the question of the procedure for electing other leading party organs. And as a whole the main question on the agenda of the 28th CPSU Congress should be the democratization of internal party life. It is expedient to examine other questions at the 29th and subsequent congresses, which should be held every year, as was the case under V.I. Lenin, in the period of revolutionary transformations in the country.

For this the powers of the congress delegates should be extended to 5 years. It is essential to do just the same with the delegates to the republican congresses and oblast, rayon, and city conferences. This will make it possible to establish a direct link between rank and file Communists and all leading organs of the party, including the supreme organs.

The congress (conference) delegate will deliver to the Communists who have elected him not only information on the work of the congress (conference) but also as their full representatives who exercises his functions permanently. This direct link is particularly essential now because many very crucial decisions must be taken and they must be implemented very rapidly and very likely given concrete form.

The 28th CPSU Congress must make the necessary alterations to the CPSU Statutes with regard to the question under examination. The other questions of the CPSU's activity can be discussed as they arise [v post-anovochnom plane] and the necessary organizational measures can be taken to resolve them at subsequent annual congresses.

[Signed] N. Yurokhin, CPSU member since 1974, Zhukovskiy City, Moscow Oblast

Sakharov Sees Inconsistencies, Threat to Gorbachev

AU1809134289 Paris AFP in English 1323 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, Sept 18 (AFP)—The main threat facing Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev comes from his own inconsistencies in dealing with crisis, rather than from personal opponents, Soviet deputy and human rights campaigner Andrey Sakharov said Monday.

In an interview with the French television station TF1, made available to AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE, Mr. Sakharov stressed that "the danger does not come from his immediate entourage", after Mr. Gorbachev consolidated his power by ousting old guard officials from the leadership.

"The danger is in the development of the situation in the country in general. In a way it comes from the inconsistencies in Mr. Gorbachev's actions. That is a great danger," he went on.

Noting that the Soviet leader wavered between conservative and radical positions, Mr. Sakharov said he must choose between being "the leader of the Nomenklatura (elite) or of perestroyka (restructuring)". "What makes me afraid is his current inconsistency," he said.

Mr. Sakharov notably pointed to the growth of nationalist unrest which sprang from "the unreasonable, inconsistent and hestitant policy from the centre which is systematically late when correct and essential decisions are required."

He dismissed a recent Central Committee resolution on nationalist developments in the Baltic states as "total folly". The hardline statement had "exacerbated the situation in a totally unnecessary way, and makes ethnic problems worse in the Baltic region and throughout the country".

Mr. Sakharov also criticized the shortcomings of glasnost (openness) in the Soviet Union. "We are far from able to publish what we want. There is no freedom of speech in the Soviet Union. There is only glasnost, which is the first stage," he said.

Party Ideologist Views Putsch Rumors, Reform Crisis

AU1609163089 Vienna DIE PRESSE in German 16-17 Sep 89 p 2

["Koes" report: "Rumors of a Coup in Moscow"]

[Text] "There is much speculation in Moscow about whether there will be a palace revolution." In Vienna on Thursday night [14 September], Georgiy Smirnov, member of the Ideological Commission of the CPSU Central Committee, confirmed rumors according to which some people in the USSR are thinking aloud about overthrowing state and party chief Mikhail Gorbachev. The "atmosphere" in the USSR is "heated up," the Soviet guest noted in a speech he delivered at the East and Southeastern Europe Institute.

For Smirnov there is no alternative to perestroyka, even though he sees many difficulties. However, "we must find something that was not here before. There are ideas to be found in Lenin which we must define first." Not everybody in the USSR finds it easy to understand that "man's interests" have to come before "ideology," Smirnov said, hinting to those functionaries that oppose reform.

The member of the Central Committee Ideological Commission admitted that perestroyka is not immune to making mistakes, and provides two examples: The unclear tax policy regarding cooperatives, in which taxes are fixed unevenly, being a stranglehold on some, and providing enormous profits to others. The anti-alcohol campaign is also part of the negative balance sheet, Smirnov noted, because thus the state has made it easy for moonshiners to make a lot of money. Smirnov did not want to exclude the possibility that mistakes will be made in dealing with the nationality problem. We are trying to solve the problems "in a democratic way," but there is no guarantee for success.

PRAVDA Cites Claims of Yeltsin Drunkenness

PM1709205189 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 18 Sep 89 Second Edition p 5

[TASS report: "LA REPUBBLICA on B.N. Yeltsin"]

[Text] Rome, 17 Sep—**The newspaper LA REPUBBLICA has published an article by Vittorio Zucconi on B.N. Yeltsin's visit to the United States. The article is published uncut.**

The American night of "perestroyka" reeks of whisky and dollars and is bathed in the radiance of TV lights. Boris Yeltsin, people's hero of Moscow, Gorbachev's Cassandra, denouncer of glasnost, is sweeping through America like a whirlwind; his words fly out and come back. He is leaving a trail of predictions of disaster, crazed spending, interviews, and especially the smell of the famous "Jack Daniels" black-label Kentucky whisky. He drinks half-liter bottles alone in his hotel room in Baltimore, where he has come at the invitation of the political science faculty at Johns Hopkins University. Yeltsin presented the distraught "honored professor" who arrived early in the morning to take him to the university conference hall with a slobbering drunken kiss and a half-empty bottle of whisky. "Let's drink to freedom," Yeltsin suggested to him at half past six in the morning, waving a full glass, the sort that is usually used for toothbrushes and toothpaste in the bathroom. But he drank alone.

He hit Washington with the fury of a storm, and Washington, although it is used to seeing drunken senators and debauched deputies every day and in the past even saw Hamilton Jordan, leader of the White House staff, impassively fondling women in a bar, is finding the "Yeltsin shock" hard to take.

After decades of the "frozen" Soviet visitors of the cold war era, after the meeting with the fragile, intellectual, almost bashful Andrey Sakharov, Yeltsin has brought into the American corridors of power the real smell and physical expansiveness of the "motherland," of "Mother Russia." He has a phenomenal capacity for drink and for spending money. "I had no idea how many glasses there were in glasnost," punned an ABC TV producer who had tried in vain to bring Yeltsin to his senses and get him into some kind of shape late one evening for another late-night interview. Yeltsin had to cancel the interview.

In 5 days and 5 nights in the United States he has slept an average of 2 hours a night and has drained 2 bottles of vodka, 4 bottles of whisky, and countless cocktails at official receptions. Because of the 8-hour time difference between Moscow and Washington he wakes late at night, when it's morning in Russia, but this does not bother him. "When you live in the context of Soviet political life, you constantly feel heavy and tired," he joked to someone accompanying him who had solicitously advised him to get some rest. "Anyhow, who knows when I'll next be in America, and every extra hour of sleep is an hour stolen from my visit."

He demanded to be taken for a ride in a long black Cadillac gleaming with chrome, "the sort presidents have," he explained to the organizers of his visit, but in reality this car is more reminiscent of the government automobiles that "real socialism" has always copied from America. Each day he receives on average 30 million lire for lectures and interviews, but he has announced his magnanimous decision to channel all the funds into research into the AIDS virus and into the treatment of patients in the USSR. The duties of the Esalen Foundation, the firm which invited him and organized the trip, are to handle the financial matters, to get the fees, and to see to the transfer of funds to the Moscow account for AIDS victims. "It would be better if Soviet AIDS patients didn't count on this money too much," an accountant with the firm of Alfred Ross comments. "If he goes on spending like this, when he departs America he will leave only debts." IOU's and words in the wake of perestroyka.

But Yeltsin has behaved honestly: From the day he arrived in Washington he has not tired of repeating that the central problem that Gorbachev must solve is the problem of the Soviet people's "living standards and consumption"; he has apparently managed to solve this problem so far as he himself is concerned. As anybody in the West who has seen or escorted Soviet tourists knows, suppressed insatiable consumerist appetites ferment within the belly of "great Mother Russia," and the populist Yeltsin has been unable to resist them. He has bought new clothes and shoes, full boxes of white shirts, sets of videocassettes with the three "Rambo" movies, "E.T.," and "Star Wars," and two video systems. He has swept through supermarkets with the same energy with which he has entered Soviet history in the eighties. "Put it on account, put it on account," Yeltsin would order the firm's accountant who was punctiliously recording the spending as he swept along the shelves. May AIDS patients in Russia not flatter themselves with hopes.

Television companies are fighting to get their hands on him. On one day alone, Monday, without putting up too much resistance, he gave seven live interviews and it was impossible to switch on the television and not catch a glimpse of Boris Yeltsin's face on the screen. He began at 7 in the morning on the "morning news" of the commercial companies, fresh as a daisy after his last nighttime glass of whisky. And ended at 8 in the evening on the PBS state television network. If he had not fallen asleep in his hotel room, he would have given another interview at 2330 hours, but a long football match postponed his going on air until 0100 hours, and by that time he could not fight off sleep any more.

Journalists adore him because he gives it to them straight from the shoulder, predicts imminent catastrophes, pours out "aphorisms" and in a matter of seconds fires long phrases at them, which can then be quoted in all the television programs and repeated ad infinitum. "Gorbachev has 6 months, or at most a year, then revolution will erupt from below"—there is an "aphorism" which for 2 days was beamed from all television screens from Washington to Los Angeles. "Communist leaders and pamphlets have always led me to think that America is bad and that it is decaying. However, it seems to me that people here are very kind and the country is thriving." You can see people who have died of starvation on the sidewalks of New York. "Died of starvation? They are all in a good mood and look perfectly happy."

And so, is perestroyka right or wrong? "The strategy is correct, but the tactics are wrong. Gorbachev should have proceeded more boldly. But he has behaved like the general who, mounting an attack, placed a single soldier in the battle ranks at intervals of 2 km. Unable to conquer the enemy, he is trying to intimidate him." And so, despite all the contradictions of capitalism, there is no poverty? "There is no doubt that it exists, but in our country, in the Soviet Union, 48 million people live below the official poverty line. There is real poverty in our country. And hunger."

For Yeltsin America is a holiday, a stage, a bar 5,000 km long. For America Yeltsin is a wonderful new toy, a doll with a typically Russian face which says things that no Russian has ever dared to say before. Even Bush could not resist the temptation to have a bit of fun and invited him for a few minutes to the White House in order to "once again demonstrate our support for Gorbachev and his policy of reforms," as Bush tried to justify his action, but it was merely a courtesy reception. Not for Boris Yeltsin, however, who declared there and then that he presented the President with a list of "ten concrete proposals," including a lot of money and direct investments in support of perestroyka.

He now has everything he dreamed of: whisky, dollars, trinkets, and "Rambo" videocasettes; he has been showered with kindness by the Washington "nomenklatura," such rising senators as Bill Bradley, such unsinkable intellectuals as Zbigniew Brzezinski, and the widow of the major U.S. politician Pamela Harriman, who gave him a motherly smile when, finally succumbing to the effects of "Jack Daniels" Black Label and time zones, Yeltsin fell asleep one night.

The only thing that he missed was the crowd, the embraces of the masses, which could not distinguish Yeltsin's car in the convoy of black limousines that glided through Washington just like the government "Zils" and "Chaykas" in Moscow. Only in a shopping mall on the outskirts of Washington, after another raid on the stores, did Yeltsin managed to shake the hand of Dorit Gurfel. She is a Russian emigre who knew Yeltsin in his youth when they both worked on a Sverdlovsk construction site in the Urals. "You have grown fat, Boris Nikolayevich," the woman said eyeing him from head to toe. "So have you, Dorit Maksimovna," Yeltsin replied and made off quickly in his Cadillac.

RSFSR Official Views Construction Shortfalls

LD1809094189 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0700 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] [Announcer] A regular session of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo has examined progress made in the implementation of the construction program in the social sphere of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR]. You will learn details of this program from material prepared by our correspondent Yuriy Korotkov.

[Korotkov] It was noted at the session that the rate of commissioning residential homes in the towns and villages of the Russian Federation has risen in the last 3 years. This has made it possible to improve the housing conditions of more than 5.5 million families. However, the scale of social construction is lagging behind demand, and the number of people who need housing is not being reduced. The situation is made worse by the fact that in 8 months of this year in the republic there has been a significant reduction in the volumes of commissioned residential homes, schools, preschool establishments, hospitals, and polyclinics, which are constructed

from state capital investments. All this threatens to disrupt the accomplishment of the plans of the statewide housing-2000 program. What, then, is the real state of affairs in the construction of housing and social installations at the present time? What oblasts and autonomous republics are failing to cope with the targets? I put these questions to (Valentina Aleksandrovna Dulich), head of the administration for statistics on capital construction of the RSFSR State Statistical Committee.

[Begin recording] [(Dulich)] The construction of installations in the housing and social sphere is greatly lagging in its implementation in the Chechen-Ingush ASSR [Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic in Astrakhan Oblast, the Dagestan ASSR, Khabarovsk and Stavropol krays, in the Novgorod, Pskov, Kostroma, and Ryazan oblasts, and in Volgograd, Sverdlovsk, and Chelyabinsk.

[Korotkov] Can you cite any specific figures? According to your data, where is the state of affairs worst with regard to the construction of housing and installations in the social, cultural, and communal-services sphere?

[(Dulich)] Matters are perhaps worst in the northern Caucasus with regard to both the provision and the progress in constructing these installations. It is poor in the Far East and in a number of oblasts in the nonchernozem zone.

[Korotkov] (Valentina Aleksandrova), could you give the number of people in need of housing in the Russian Federation?

[(Dulich)] It is now about 9 million families in the Russian Federation. Among those who are waiting are 99,000 families of war invalids and families of people who have been killed, and 278,000 families of participants in war. We still have about 7 million people living in hostels.

[Korotkov] What is the cause of the lag in housing construction?

[(Dulich)] In the years of the 19th 5-year plan period we talk a great deal about reorientation of the investment process toward the construction of installations in the social sphere, including housing. However, a significant increase in capital investments into construction outside the production sphere has not taken place over these years. The relative proportion still remains at the level of 27 percent. It must also be said that work in the nonproduction sphere is not increasing at particularly marked rates in the volume of contractual work by construction ministries. Nothing of note has taken place with regard to the rhythmic production of work during the year, or with regard to ensuring that installations are commissioned. Only 40 percent of the annual plan for residential homes have been commissioned in the 8 months. The shortcomings in the construction of these installations can be explained, as indeed in capital construction as a whole, by the deficiencies in the economic mechanism. The new economic mechanism is still a cost-intensive one for the moment; it is based on gross-output indices, and construction workers have no interest in the swiftest possible commissioning of installations or in the swiftest achievement of end results. [end recording]

[Announcer] It should be added that the CPSU Central Committee Politburo demanded that the state of affairs in construction work in the social sphere be changed, and that Soviet and economic leaders be given increased responsibility for the unconditional fulfillment of plans for housing and sociocultural construction. The leaders of USSR Gosplan [State Planning Committee and the USSR State Committee for Material and Technical Supply, meanwhile, were instructed to provide the necessary assistance in resolving issues concerning the financing and material-technical provisioning of these construction works.

Soviet Prodemocracy Groups End Regional Conference

AU1809094289 Paris AFP in English 0924 GMT 18 Sep 89

[Text] Moscow, Sep 18 (AFP)—A conference in Leningrad of Soviet democracy movements on Monday announced the formation of an Inter-regional Association of Democratic Movements (MADO) which will hold trimestrial "information" sessions to discuss the reform process, according to sources at the conference.

About 100 groups are represented in Leningrad from the official and structured Popular Fronts to small and informal pro-reform movements.

The conference, which began Saturday, was due to wind up on Monday.

The conference press centre said the MADO would include an "information department" which would meet every three months in a different town to exchange views and report progress. The sources said the conference had not been able to agree on the choice of a permanent headquarters.

Several radical members of the Congress of People's Deputies are also attending the conference, which was to adopt two final resolutions Monday: the first concerning the political situation in the Soviet Union and the second on relations between the various nationalities.

The latter was "causing most problems", the sources said.

The Communist Party Central Committee will meet Tuesday in Moscow to redefine the party line on nationalities, one of the most explosive issues now facing the Soviet leadership.

Russian Working People's Front Charter Adopted

LD1709192189 Moscow Television Servicein Russian 1430 GMT 17 Sep 89

[V. Stepanyuk video report from Sverdlovsk; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] One-hundred and ten delegates from almost 30 Russian towns gathered in the metallurgists' palace of the Verkh-Isetskiy Works. A declaration on the creation of a Russian united working people's front [rossiyskiy obyedinenniy front trudyashchikhsya], and its charter were adopted. Visitors were also present: emissaries from intermovements and the workers' fronts from other union republic. [video shows meeting taking place, then cuts to room with two participants, indentified by screen caption as K.V. Fedotov, docker, and V.A. Yarin, people's deputy of the USSR]

After the congress we chatted with some delegates.

[Begin recording] [Fedotov] What was discussed at the session? What were the most important questions discussed at the session? There was the question of elections to local soviets, according to the production territorial principle. And during this discussion, the congress adopted a resolution on this question by a majority of votes, an appeal to the workers of Russia on this question. A great deal of attention was paid to the discussion of economic problems facing Russia.

[Stepanyuk] At this congress, naturally you also determined how you will act in the system of our political organizations in the country.

[Yarin] I understand that the question (?will arise) of our interaction with public organizations, in the field of the activity of the united fronts of the working people of Russia [obye dinenniye fronty trudyashchikhsya Rossii]. First of all, we would like to determine the positions of these organizations, their positions on Russia. We would like to see just the same position as defined by the trade union. At a plenum, the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions expressed its opinion clearly and unambiguously on holding a congress of trade unions of Russia and on the subject of the creation of basic bodies of a trade union administration of Russia. We would like to see such a discussion being held in the party. Don't misunderstand us, we realize that this could have some influence on the growing nationalist mood which exists today. We do not want our aspiration to live in the same way as the other republics do—in the sense of their administrative bodies—to be regarded as some sort of Russian chauvinism. We dont want this at all. [end recording]

[Stepanyuk] Let's break off for the moment. It so happened that at the same time, also in Sverdlosk, there was a conference of people's deputies of the Greater Urals area. They were discussing the extremely tense economic situation in the area; the neglected social sphere, the great outflow of the population, preparations for the elections, and other problems. At the same time, many deputies criticized a number of the positions in the platform of the united fronts of the working people of Russia. These included Deputy Levashev from Leningrad, (Shipovalenko) from Orenburg, Volkov from Sverdlovsk, the Muscovite Travkin, and others.

Here is Academician Sakharov's opinion: (video shows meeting scenes, including deputy reading paper called "striking Tiraspol" dated 5 September; film then cuts to Sakharov in a room talking to unidentified correspondent]

[Begin recording) [Sakharov] It seems to me that this is an organization which, in actuality, is not capable of (?basing itself on) the genuine interests of the working class. The interests of the working class cannot be in opposition to other strata of society. This attempt to create the illusion of something like, you know [word indistinct] proletariat, can once again turn out to be a way of manipulating the working class in the interests of the apparat. That's what I think, and for that reason the changes in the law on elections, which are part of that association's program, seem to me to be completely wrong and even very dangerous for perestroyka, for the harmonious development of our country. [video cuts back to Yarin and Fedotov]

[Yarin] I not only do not understand the position that was expressed in a number of people's deputies' speeches in Sverdlovsk, that a front like this is not needed. We do not reject a single one of the public non-professional associations that have been formed now. We agree with some things, we disagree with others, but we do not reject. Today it is impossible to reject differences in thought. Today we must learn from this or that way of thought, to take the kernel of what is rational, and to join them together, to find ways for solutions and to give it back to man.

We are not allowing you in any way to make use of our front for a schism. (?If you want an argument, let us argue), but let us find solutions; the people have grown tired of talk. The democracy that consists of meetings will not feed us, nor will many of the sessions being held. We will be fed by deeds. The well-being of the people consists only of deeds. That is our main aim. Who today will defend the working person if not the working person himself? Then let's allow him to do so. Let us bring him closer to political activity.

Today, unfortunately, at the Congress of People's Deputies, the working people are represented by less than their membership. At the basis of my program is the fate of Russia. I would like to live to the time when the Russian and the Jew, and Tater and the German, the Estonian, who have been thrown somehow by fate to live in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, are proud to live in the republic. I, in no way, agree with what is happening in a number of republics. (?All Russian) forces whip up the situation, laws are being worked out that humilate the dignity of this or that nation. But

who today will quarrel about the democratic... [changes thought I mean the necessity for democratic perestroyka in this or that republic? No one. But build a republic built on law which does not humilate the dignity of a single nation, and you will be priceless.

Biographical Sketches of New TU Officials

18280283 Moscow TRUD in Russian
7 Sep 89 p 2

[Biographical sketches of AUCCTU Deputy Chairman Igor Yevgenyevich Klochkov, AUCCTU Deputy Chairman Gennadiy Ivanovich Yanayev, and AUCCTU Secretary Gennadiy Sergeyevich Bashtanyuk]

[Text]

AUCCTU [All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions] Deputy Chairman Igor Yevgenyevich Klochkov

Comrade I.Ye. Klochkov was born in 1939. He has a college degree. In 1961 he graduated from the Odessa Institute of Construction Engineering, and in 1974 from the Higher Party School of the CPSU Central Committee.

He began his labor activities in 1961 as a foreman of construction and assembly train No 181 of the Moselektrotyagstroy Trust [Moscow Trust of Electric Traction Systems and Installations]. Subsequently he worked as second and first secretary of the Naro-Fominsk Rayon Committee of the Komsomol in Moscow Oblast, senior engineer, secretary of the party committee at the Gidromontazh Trust [State All-Union Trust for Hydrotechnical Assembly Work] in Moscow Oblast. Between 1970 and 1975 he was chairman of the executive committee of the Naro-Fominsk City Soviet of Workers Deputies. In 1975 through 1977 he was first secretary of the Naro-Fominsk CPSU City Committee. Between 1977 and 1986 he was secretary of the Moscow Oblast CPSU Committee. Since 1986 Comrade I.Ye. Klochkov has been an AUCCTU secretary. He is a deputy of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet.

AUCCTU Deputy Chairman Gennadiy Ivanovich Yanayev

Comrade G.I. Yanayev was born in 1937. He has a college degree. In 1959 he graduated from the Gorkiy Agricultural Institute, and in 1967 from the All-Union Correspondence Institute of Law; he is a candidate of historical sciences.

He began his labor activities in 1959 as chief of a mechanized pool, and subsequently worked as chief engineer of the Rabotkino Repair and Technical Station, manager of the Knyaginino Branch of Selkhoztekhnika [Republic Association for the Sales of Agricultural Machinery]. Between 1963 and 1968 he was second secretary of the Gorkiy Oblast Committee of the Komsomol, and subsequently worked for 12 years as chairman of the USSR Committee of Youth Organizations. Between 1980 and 1986 he was deputy chairman of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. He has been an AUCCTU secretary since 1986. He is a USSR people's deputy from the USSR trade unions.

AUCCTU Secretary Gennadiy Sergeyevich Bashtanyuk

Comrade G.S. Bashtanyuk was born in 1949. He has an incomplete college education and is a student of the Saratov Higher Party School.

After graduating from a vocational technical school, he began his labor activities in 1967 as a fitter-repairman at the Moscow Cotton Print Works. Between 1968 and 1970 he served in the Soviet Army. After his discharge from the service, he worked as a fitter-repairman at the Karbolit Plant in the city of Orekhovo-Zuyevo, Moscow Oblast. Beginning in 1972 he worked for 14 years as a fitter-repairman and brigade leader of fitter-repairmen in the foundry shop of the Kama Association for the Production of High-Capacity Motor Vehicles (KamAZ). Since 1986 he has been the chairman of the Tatar Oblast Council of Trade Unions.

He was elected a candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee at the 26th CPSU Congress and a member of the CPSU Central Committee at the 27th CPSU Congress. He is a Hero of Socialist Labor.